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PUZZLE PAGE

on P. 34 - Sudoku
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Word Search



Time change this Sunday

Clocks will fall back an hour this coming Sunday, with an extra hour of sleep guaranteed when clocks go back from 2am to 1am.

Family claim Australian woman murdered at Algarve home, police say suicide

Portuguese police have allegedly failed to uncover the murder of an Australian woman who was found dead at her Algarve home in 2008, declaring it was suicide. (See Page 4)

Support for bullfights blatant with boost in pro-signatures

In 48 hours, the number of signatures on a pro-bullfighting petition launched by the Mayor of Santarém in August more than doubled and surpassed the 50,000 mark, leaving its rival petition far behind with just under 17,000 signatures. (See Page 7)

Lifeline legacy reunites animal charities

A considerable legacy bequeathed by an Algarve resident specifically for animal welfare has helped reunite two of the region's longest-running animal charities. (See Page 23)

Formula 1 to return to Portugal?

Recent reports have suggested that the FIA, happy with the Portimão race track and how it tested two years ago, could be bringing the cream of Formula One back to Portugal for testing next February. (See Page 64)

Weekend weather

Lisbon: The capital will experience wintry weather this weekend, with rain, strong winds and big waves set to dominate. The skies are forecast to clear late Sunday and remain so for much of the week.

Algarve: Scattered showers are predicted this weekend with strong winds expected, especially for Saturday evening. **North:** A rainy and windy weekend lies ahead, though the bad weather should clear by Sunday evening.



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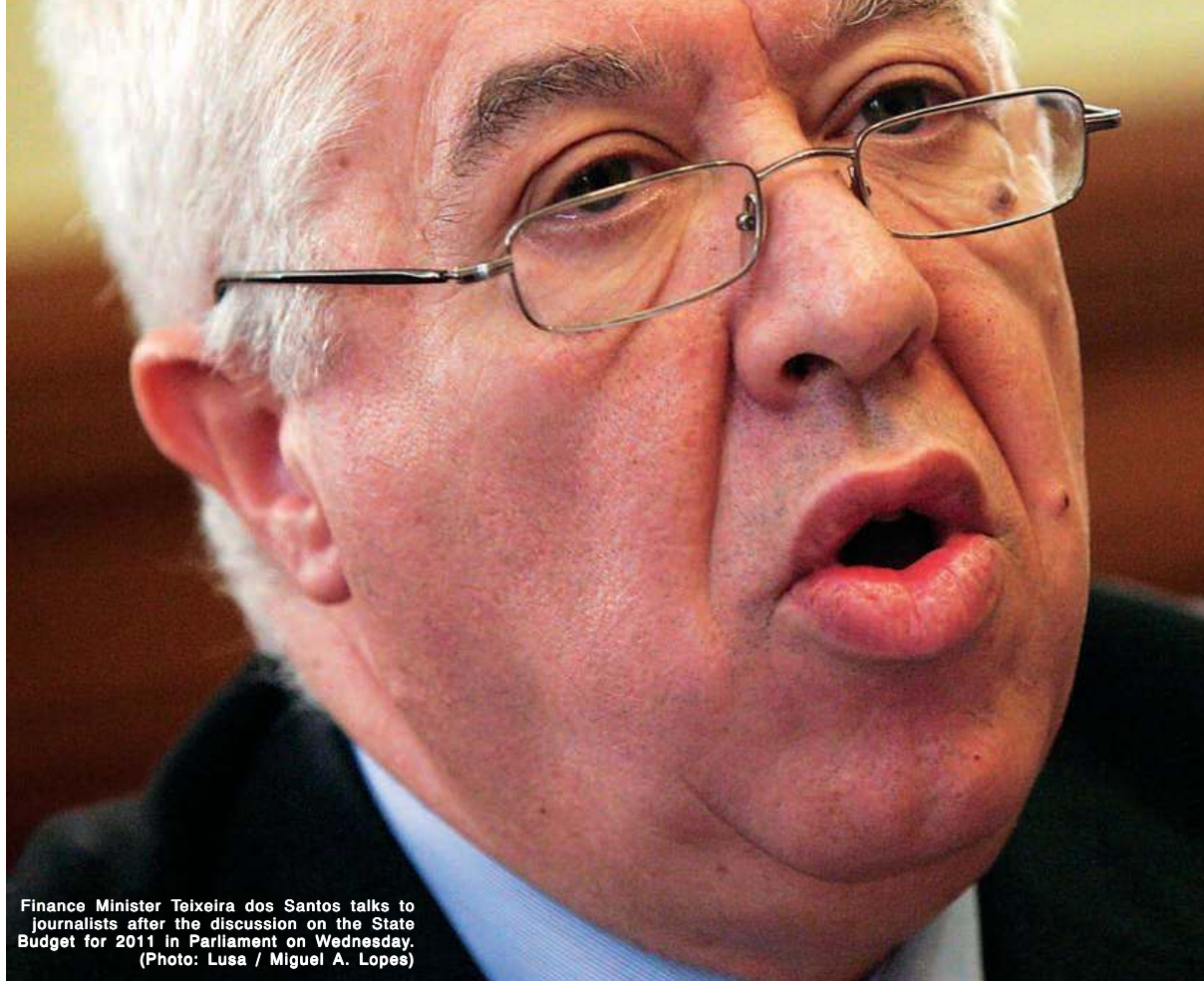
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Squabbles over next year's budget could culminate in PM's resignation and early elections

BOTCHED BUDGET?

Full story, see page 2



Finance Minister Teixeira dos Santos talks to
journalists after the discussion on the State
Budget for 2011 in Parliament on Wednesday.
(Photo: Lusa / Miguel A. Lopes)

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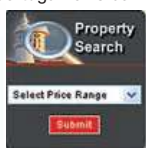
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Botched budget?

Brendan de Beer

Portugal has this week been plunged into political chaos as marathon talks over next year's budget between the ruling Socialists (PS) and the main opposition Social Democrats (PSD) broke down. The seriousness of the situation is best described by the threat of the Prime Minister resigning should the budget fail to gain Parliament's blessing. Numerous economists have also since called for the direct intervention of the International Monetary Fund in Portugal's accounts, while the Finance Minister is predicting "chaos" should his proposed budget be rejected next week.

Five days of gruelling negotiations ended when the two sides refused to budge when it came down to spending cuts amounting to what is believed to be 230 million euros.

Finance Minister Teixeira dos Santos stubbornly stuck to his guns this week in maintaining that Portugal has to aim for a budget deficit target of 4.6 percent.

The current shortfall of the GDP is 9.4 percent.

Proposals by the PSD to limit the increase in VAT to 22 percent as opposed to the 23 percent proposed by the Government coupled with reductions in public spending cuts were rejected by Teixeira dos Santos and his team, who on Wednesday presented their final proposal which the PSD said was insufficient to stop them from voting against the budget.

Following the walk-out by the Social Democrats, the Finance Minister warned that failure to pass the 2011 budget will "plunge the country into a deep financial crisis".

The 2011 budget proposal will be tabled for debate on November 2nd, with voting set to take place a day later.

Three of the five parties with parliamentary seats have already

pledged to vote against the document.

The minority Government will secure the budget's passing should the Social Democrats abstain.

In the meantime, President Cavaco Silva has summoned his top advisors to form the Council of State and gather this Friday evening to discuss a number of scenarios, with early elections set to top the agenda.

The Prime Minister has already indicated that in the event of the budget failing to gain Parliament's approval, he will have no option but to resign, which would result in a general election, probably in January.

The PSD, however, which polls indicate would win a hypothetical ballot, but possibly only with a minority, appear reluctant to assume power and are also wary of an electoral backlash for not appearing to support the budget, no matter how flawed they may argue it is, and thereby plunging the country into a state of political and financial disarray.

The PSD's chief whip Miguel Macedo, perhaps in an attempt to remove the victim card the Government could play should political turmoil ensue has since defended his party's stance, say-

ing "we made a serious effort to pass what is a bad budget".

But Miguel Macedo's Socialist counterpart Francisco Assis has remained positive that an 11th hour agreement can be reached, expressing the hope the PSD "would assist in sparing the country from a crisis".

Both the Prime Minister and the leader of the opposition have been inconspicuous during the past few days of political wrangling, and have remained tight-lipped on what the country can expect, allowing others to assume responsibility for failures to reach a consensus.

Besides threatening to resign, Prime Minister José Sócrates has kept his silence, while PSD leader Pedro Passos Coelho appears to have channelled his views and that of his party through spokesman Miguel Relvas.

Following the breakdown of talks, Mr. Relvas held the back door open, explaining the party would only make its final position known on the eve of the crucial November 3 vote.

"Considering how exceptionally serious Portugal's situation is, the PSD's political committee decided to wait until the eve of the 2011 budget vote, hoping that the Government will show a willing-

ness to abandon its intransigent stand and reconsider PSD's constructive, realistic proposals", Miguel Relvas was quoted as telling reporters on Wednesday evening.

The European Union has also taken note of the adverse effects the breakdown in talks have had on the European markets, with Commission President and former Portuguese Prime Minister Durão Barroso saying he is "worried" about the current stalemate.

"I am clearly worried about the news [of the collapse of negotiations]. It is obviously important that Portugal reaches a deal over the budget", Durão Barroso was reported as saying by the Lusa News Agency.

"I still haven't lost hope because, as far as I know, the parliament vote will only take place a few days from now, and so I hope the matter is settled, for Portugal's sake."

"In a difficult financial, budgetary and economic situation such as we all know Portugal is experiencing, it's very important to reach a consensus that allows the country to have a budget that may restore credibility to Portuguese public finances", Durão Barroso added.

Portugal shows slight improvement on international corruption list



Of 178 countries analyzed for Transparency International's (TI) annual report, Portugal this year ranked 32nd, a slight improvement from its positioning last year, which at 35th place was in fact the country's worst ranking ever.

Since the year 2000, when Portugal ranked 25th on the report, the country has consistently dropped down the list. Only this year has it showed any sign of improvement by climbing three spots, from 35th to 32nd.

The TI report – the 'Index for the Perception of Corruption (IPC) 2010' – assesses countries based on perceptions of corruption.

This year Portugal maintained its status as one of Western Europe's worst-faring countries despite having improved slightly in relation to 2009.

"Hermetic" laws, a justice system that "doesn't work", a lack of results and "null" results where concerning the fight against corruption are the main reasons given by TI to explain the perception the world has of corruption in Portugal.

Paulo Morais, a Portuguese representative for TI, told Lusa News agency that "over the past

years Portugal has worsened significantly", and admitted that it is "the 'serpent's egg' within a confusing legislation that generates corruption by itself".

He added, laws that are "invariably hermetic and full of rules that no one understands, executed in a way that they obey this or that group", and, "worst of all", laws that attribute "unlimited arbitrary power to those who administer them".

Paulo Morais further highlighted opinions that the Portuguese justice system "doesn't work", because "there is no systematic effort to combat corruption".

"Here and there, there have been some traces of apparent will to stop corruption" he said, stressing "results though have been practically non-existent".

"Even the most recent organisations have been practically worthless, and that's when they're not, in many cases, coun-

terproductive", he justified.

He described the Portuguese Committee for Preventing Corruption as a "governmental organism" and the Parliamentary Commission against Corruption as "absolutely useless" and which has results "that are practically null".

The report is carried out by "a group of independent experts" and has various sources, 60 percent of which offer external visions on Portugal, and 40 percent of whom provide opinions manifested from within the country.

International Transparency is a non-governmental organization whose main objective is the fight against corruption. It was founded in March 1993 and is based in Berlin.

It is renowned for its annual production of the TI reports in which indexes of perceptions of corruption relating to hundreds of countries from around the

globe are analysed.

Countries are awarded points from 0 to 10 (from the worst to the best performance); Portugal this year scored an overall total of six points.

Europe-wise, Portugal ranks 19th out of 30 countries. Other European countries that fared worse than Portugal include former Eastern Bloc countries, as well as Italy, Greece and Malta.

On the opposite end of the scale Denmark, New Zealand and Singapore are perceived as the world's least corrupt countries and share the top-spot, each with a ranking of 9.3.

The bottom spots are taken mostly by countries with unstable governments and histories of conflict, such as Afghanistan and Myanmar, which share the second-to-bottom place.

The country perceived to be the most corrupt of all 178 is Somalia, which with a score of 1.1 takes the list's bottom spot.



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Family claim Australian woman murdered at Algarve home, police say suicide



Australian resident Jacinta Rees was found dead in the courtyard of her countryside home near São Brás de Alportel on March 20th, 2008. (Photo: SUPPLIED)

Eloise Walton

Former international model and fashion executive Jacinta Rees was found dead in the courtyard of her home in Sítio Corgas Bravas, around ten kilometres from São Brás de Alportel, by her neighbour's teenage son on March 20th, 2008.

Local police concluded the death was a suicide, despite an autopsy in Australia finding later she died of extensive injuries caused by repeated blows with an axe and evidence of defensive wounds on her arms and legs.

Family members, not satisfied with findings here, have been investigating the mystery of her

Portuguese police have allegedly failed to uncover the murder of an Australian woman who was found dead at her Algarve home in 2008, declaring it was suicide. The news emerged this week that an independent autopsy in her homeland said she had been the victim of a murder.

death ever since, claiming that they have received little help from the Australian or Portuguese governments.

"All we want is to know the truth about what happened to her. She was our sister and our parents' child - she deserves better than this," Jacinta's brother, Cameron told Australia's *Herald Sun* newspaper.

Portuguese police told local reporters at the scene in 2008 that her death was most likely an accident.

Comandante Guerreiro from São Brás de Alportel GNR said at the time: "The lady was found dead by one of her teenage neighbours. There were traces of blood; however, there is no suspicion of murder."

He added that the victim could have died as the result of a fall.

It has been reported in Australian media however that a Coroner's report in Victoria confirmed that she died from "blunt force injury to the left side of the head".

"This injury pattern with trauma to both head and the left arm raises serious concerns. Further investigations are being undertaken via the Victorian Police Department's homicide squad," it adds.

Allegedly an initial Portuguese autopsy report also suggested Jacinta's death was a murder.

"There are signs highly probable of defence being the elements of the autopsy suggestive of murder with data that favour extreme violence highly difficult to attribute to the self..." a literal translation reads.

Despite those reports, the Portuguese police closed the investigation the following month and passed the case on to the Public Prosecutor's office as a diplomatic matter.

Mystery now surrounds the

case and locals in São Brás de Alportel who knew Jacinta are reticent to speak about it.

Sources close to the investigation told *The Portugal News*: "Local people were too scared to speak about the case. Those who did would not be identified."

"Several said that a lot of secret dealings are carried out and many people have 'gone to bed poor and woken up rich' during the last 20 years," they added.

Jacinta's family have a theory that she may have found something out that could have cost her life.

"Jacinta may have stumbled across something," her brother Cameron said.

"She left a note for someone saying she was leaving and she did not know how things would work out and asked that they forgive her, but the police construed it as a suicide note," he added.

"It wasn't a suicide note - she was scared of something. Jacinta may have stumbled across something," said Cameron.

A Portuguese lawyer, told Portuguese newspaper *Diário de Notícias*: "As long as the family presents new evidence, with consistent data, the process will be sent to the Public Ministry who will evaluate it and decide whether to reopen the case or not."

"A murder case can be reopened up to 15 or 20 years later," said the lawyer, although he added that he found it strange that Jacinta's family have spoken out only now, two years after her death.

"There could be some confusion in this case. During the autopsy carried out in Portugal, the skull could have been open for investigation. The signs that the family say are from an axe blow could have been from that work carried out by the authorities," he argued.

EU study reveals 58 percent of Portugal's children have online profiles

A European study has revealed that almost 60 percent of children aged up to 16 in Portugal have a profile on an online social networking site. Of this number, 25 percent do not restrict access to their profile.

A project called EU Kids Online carried out the online study which was completed by 23,000 children aged between nine and 16 throughout 25 European countries, including Portugal.

The aim of this study, whose results were revealed in Luxembourg on October 21st, was to determine risk factors to

youngsters such as: pornography, bullying, sexual messages, contact with strangers, offline meetings with online contacts, dangerous content and abuse of personal information.

Of the 58 percent of children in Portugal with a social networking profile online, 34 percent have up to ten contacts and 25 percent have up to 50 contacts.

Of the children who use social networking websites, 25 percent have their profile open to the public, while seven percent share their home address or telephone number, although children in Portugal are among those who

share the least compared to other European countries.

Cristina Ponte, lecturer in communication at the Universidade Nova de Lisboa and national coordinator of the project, said that this is now a European tendency that cannot be stopped. She warned that parents must remain vigilant, especially as Portugal has one of the highest rates of children accessing the internet from their bedrooms, unsupervised.

Of the children in Portugal who responded to the study, four percent have had a meeting with people they met online, while 15

percent of those responded that they have kept in contact with those people.

Europe-wide, the study found that 29 percent of children who use the internet had been in contact with someone they don't know, while eight percent have met with a stranger they met online during the last year.

EU Kids Online concluded from their results that children in Estonia, Lithuania, the Czech Republic and Sweden were most at risk from online predators, while those in Turkey, Portugal and Italy had the lowest risk.

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Cavaco Silva announces presidential re-election bid



President Aníbal Cavaco Silva announces his candidature to a five-year second term to the upcoming presidential elections, at Belém Cultural Centre, in Lisbon, Portugal. The Portuguese presidential elections will be in January 23rd, 2011. (Photo: António Cotrim / Lusa)



President Cavaco Silva on Tuesday announced, as had been widely forecast, that he would seek a second term as Portugal's head of state, saying it was his "duty" to help the country find solutions to its "extremely difficult" economic situation.

A conservative economist, Cavaco Silva, 71, will face four left-of-centre challengers when voters go to the polls on January 23.

Every president has won a second and final consecutive five-year term since Portugal's democracy-restoring "Carnation Revolution" in 1974.

"In the face of the extremely difficult situation in which Portugal finds itself, in the face of the uncertainties, and even anguish, felt by many Portuguese, I concluded that I had the duty to stand for reelection as President of the Republic", Cavaco Silva said in a televised speech at Lisbon's Belém Cultural Centre.

In the address scheduled to coincide with prime-time evening news programmes, the former prime minister promised to run an "inexpensive" campaign out of respect for the country's financial and economic plight.

He pledged, if reelected, to work in a non-partisan manner with all parties and the minority Socialist government of Prime

Minister José Sócrates.

Cavaco Silva has urged the main opposition Social Democrats (PSD), the party he once led, to seek a pivotal consensus with the government over its austerity budget proposal for next year.

The PSD leadership was expected to formalise its support for

his presidential bid in coming days.

Portuguese presidential campaigns are run in an individual fashion, rather than in a formal partisan manner.

Cavaco Silva's main challenger is widely expected to be poet and veteran Socialist lawmaker Manuel Alegre, who was placed second in the last presidential

election in 2006.

Alegre has the support of the Socialists and the small Left Bloc party.

Other candidates are Communist Francisco Lopes, medical aid charity AMI founder Fernando Nobre, and independent Socialist Defensor de Moura.

TPN/Lusa

EU Parliament approves 30-day deadline to pay a bill

The standard deadline for paying bills will be 30 days under a deal with the Council endorsed by Parliament in a recent plenary session.

The new rules are aimed to ensure that small firms no longer face financial problems due to the late payment of bills by public authorities or companies and bolster solvency, innovation and jobs.

As a general rule, the deadline for both public and private sectors to pay a bill for goods or services will now be 30 days. For over a year, the Parliament has pushed to secure more stringent and clear-cut rules on payment periods. Parliament's negotiators aimed to avoid loopholes and to ensure that any exceptions to the general deadline are restricted to special circumstances.

The agreement, presented to Parliament as a "consolidated amendment" to the report by Parliament's rapporteur Barbara Weiler (S&D, DE), received broad backing from all political groups and was approved with 612 votes in favour, 12 against and 21 abstentions.

"This directive will pave the way for a whole new payment culture. We have aimed to ensure that the rights of the smaller companies are enforced in order to improve liquidity and create a better climate for investments into new jobs", said Ms Barbara Weiler.

She stressed that Member States should not wait up to two years to put the new rules into

effect, but begin transposing them into their national laws as of January 2011.

For business-to-business payments the general deadline is 30 days unless otherwise stated in the contract. If both parties agree, it is possible to go up to 60 days. The payment period may be extended beyond 60 days only if "expressly agreed" by the creditor and the debtor in the contract and provided that it is not "grossly unfair" to the creditor.

For public-to-business payments the general deadline is 30 days. If the two parties wish to extend the payment period, this has to be "expressly agreed" and "objectively justified in the light of the particular nature or features of the contract". Parliament fought hard to ensure that under no circumstances may the deadline for public authorities to pay a bill exceed 60 days.

The European Parliament explained it pushed the European Council to accept a statutory interest rate on overdue payments of the reference rate plus at least 8%.

The creditor is also entitled to obtain from the debtor, as a minimum, a fixed sum of €40, as compensation for recovery costs.

The agreement now needs to be formally adopted by the European Council.

The new directive enters into force 20 days after its publication in the EU Official Journal.

Member States will then have two years to implement the new measures.

Portugal opposed to voting rights suspension for fiscal-rules breaching EU countries

Portugal is opposed to a German-French proposal to suspend the voting rights in European institutions of nations with major imbalances in their national accounts, Foreign Minister Luís Amado was reported as saying by the Lusa News Agency this week outside a European Union summit.

"Portugal, as other member-states, does not accept the voting-rights suspension as a condition for the revision of the Sta-

bility and Growth Pact" of the EU, Minister Amado said.

Germany's Chancellor Angela Merkel and France's President Nicolas Sarkozy propose a reform of the Lisbon Treaty which would include harsh penalties for member-states that break the Union's fiscal rules. One of these penalties would be the loss of voting rights for repeated offenders.

The idea is opposed by several countries with troubled public fi-

nances, including Spain, Ireland, Italy and Portugal.

Minister Amado says there are "other options" to deal with countries that post repeated "excessive [budget] deficits" or allow their national debt to rise uncontrollably.

Nevertheless, the Portuguese Foreign Minister favors a strengthening of the punishment for member-states that fail to keep their fiscal commitments.

"The last decade in the Monetary Union recommends a reinforcement of the sanction mecha-

nism", Mr. Amado recognized in comments to the Lusa News Agency.

Meanwhile, figures released by Eurostat have placed Portugal as the country with the fifth highest deficit in percentage of GDP in Europe. Greece was not included in the figures.

The highest rate was recorded in Ireland with a deficit of 14.4%, followed by the United Kingdom (11.4%), Spain (11.1%), Latvia (10.2%), Portugal (9.3%), Lithuania (9.2%), Romania (8.6%), Slovakia (7.9%), France

(7.5%) and Poland (7.2%).

No Member State registered a government surplus in 2009. The lowest deficits were recorded in Luxembourg (0.7%), Sweden (0.9%) and Estonia (1.7%).

Eleven Member States, had government debt ratios higher than 60% of GDP in 2009: Italy (116.0%), Belgium (96.2%), Hungary (78.4%), France (78.1%), Portugal (76.1%), Germany (73.4%), Malta (68.6%), the United Kingdom (68.2%), Austria (67.5%), Ireland (65.5%) and the Netherlands (60.8%).

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Support for bullfights blatant with boost in pro-signatures

Carrie-Marie Bratley

In 48 hours the number of signatures on a pro-bullfighting petition launched by the Mayor of Santarém in August more than doubled and surpassed the 50,000 mark, leaving its rival petition, 'To End Bullfights and All Spectacles Involving Bulls' far behind with just under 17,000 signatures.

Outspoken Santarém Mayor Moita Flores launched the public petition 'In Defence of the Festa Brava' to defend the honour of the tradition and its continuity.

His goal is to reach 100,000 signatures by July 2011, and should the current pace be maintained, the target could be reached before next summer.

To put the amount of signatures into perspective, Moita Flores' petition is currently the second highest-ranking petition actively circulating.

On official public petition website peticao publica.com, where all ongoing petitions can be consulted and the amount of signatures viewed (last weekend's pro-bullfighting signatures do not yet feature on the online version of the petition), the highest-ranking document – a petition to reduce the number of deputies in Portugal's Parliament from 230 to 180 – has 65,490 signatures. The second highest-ranking, to stop politicians and people in public office from getting pensions before the age of 65, has 49,362 signatures.

A petition to stop tolls being introduced on the Algarve's A22 motorway has gathered 7,703 signatures, while one of the most recent petitions, to 'Bring the Twilight Saga Actors to Portugal' (and which needs 500 signatures to be taken into consideration) has 340 followers.

Two of the most controversial petitions launched in Portugal, to review the law-change that allowed homosexuals to marry (submitted earlier this year after same-sex unions were legalised in 2009) and against the legalising of abortions (submitted in 2003 before the voluntary terminations of pregnancies up to ten

weeks were made legal in 2008), collected 90,785 and 190,000 signatures, respectively.

At the time of going to press a petition launched ten days earlier to that of Moita Flores' (on August 15th), 'For the Abolition of Bullfights and All Spectacles Involving Bulls', had 16,675 signatures.

Created by the Party for Animals and Nature (PAN – formerly known as the PPA, Party for Animals), the petition looks to have Parliament 'approve legislation in which all bullfights and spectacles involving bulls are completely abolished from national territory'.

They also have the goal of reaching 100,000 signatures.

Moita Flores' petition was given a significant boost when more than 50,000 people turned out for a bull-fighting extravaganza held this weekend in Santarém.

The spectacle, which featured four different displays over two days, was held in the Santarém bullring, the Monumental Celestino Graça.

With a capacity for 12,380 people the venue sold out for three of the four events. Tickets were being sold at a symbolic price of just €1. All of the demonstrators participated for free and the bulls were bequeathed by the breeders.

Many spectators – who flocked to the event in droves – signed the petition, giving it a significant push.

The next step in Moita Flores' campaign to keep bullfighting a living tradition is to meet with fellow like-minded Mayors to create another pro-movement. A meeting with around 50 Mayors from regions "where activities linked to bulls have great eco-



The 'Ó forcão rapazes' festival is a traditional bullfighting spectacle that is unique to Portugal. It was the highpoint at the 'Capeias Arraianas' event which took place on August 22, in Soito, Sabugal. (Photo: Daniel Gil/LUSA)

nomic and social importance" has been scheduled to take place in Moita, in November, a spokesperson for the petition explained.

A third step in the campaign aims to gain the backing of "artists and intellectuals who support the Festa Brava".

"Part of the artistic movement represents the values that we defend very well", the spokesperson said, predicting that the idea "could result in great national exposure".

State Secretary for Culture Elisio Summavielle was present at the bullfighting event held last weekend in Santarém and also signed Mayor Flores' petition.

For that he was paid homage during the event.

Earlier this year the Ministry of Culture created a specialised department dedicated to bullfighting, a move praised by some and condemned by others.

In Portugal there are clear indications that the opinion-dividing tradition is still widely regarded by many as a custom to be maintained.

According to data from the

General Inspectorate for Cultural Activities (IGAC), more than 600,000 people watched a live bullfight last year.

On its introductory note from a 2009 report the IGAC states: "The bullfighting spectacle in

Portugal represents a secular tradition that has an important cultural expression as well as significant expression concerning the number of spectators it mobilises within all activities related to it". Last year 187 bullfights were

held, the majority of which took place in the popular tourist destination of Albufeira (Algarve).

These and other spectacles involving bulls, of which there were 313 in total, were watched by a total of 663,033 spectators.



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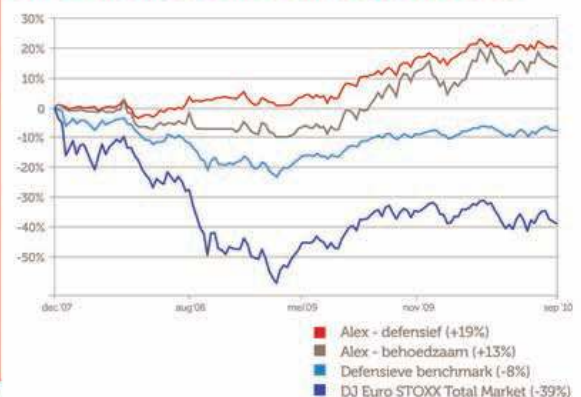
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TUI follows Thomas Cook in dropping Algarve



Two of the world's biggest travel operators, TUI and Thomas Cook, have recently dealt a considerable blow to the Algarve's struggling tourism industry by cancelling winter operations to the region. Furthermore, it has emerged that a leading hotel association is preparing legal action against Thomas Cook for making "unilateral" decisions.

Earlier this month **The Portugal News** broke the news that leading travel company Thomas Cook had left the traditionally popular winter destination of the Algarve off its 2010 seasonal programme.

At the time a spokesperson for the company told **The Portugal News** that the destination had been excluded due to "a combination of factors".

"The Thomas Cook brand won't be chartering into Faro until April, but we have alternatives for our customers who want to travel to that region", the representative explained.

Now reports state that counterpart TUI has followed suit in terminating travel to the Algarve during the low-season.

Regional entities believe the dual decision could signal bankruptcy for many local tour operators.

As of this month Thomas Cook's operations to the Algarve from the UK, Ireland and Scandinavia will no longer be active.

"We will notice a lack in clients until May from what was the first travel agency in the world", said Elidérico Viegas, President of the Algarve Association for Hotels and Tourist Resorts (AHETA), making reference to Thomas Cook's founding in 1851.

Competition from low-cost carriers and a growing preference for emerging but more economic destinations like Turkey, where families can enjoy "all-inclusive holidays" at budget prices, are indicated as providing hefty competition to traditional winter-sun destinations such as the Algarve and Spain's 'Costas'. Also, people are "more willing to take flights that may be a little longer [than standard short-haul] but the good weather is guaranteed", the Thomas Cook source said.

The representative was adamant that the Algarve is still one of the company's most popular destinations "from Easter onwards", but explained that the programmes "are reviewed based on past figures, and then tweaked".

Nuno Aires, head of the Regional Algarve Tourism Board, stressed how over the past ten years the Algarve has already lost some three million nights that should have been spent by foreign tourists in the region "largely because of the changes in strategies by these two tour operators [TUI and Thomas Cook] who started to

invest in markets outside of Europe".

It is now suggested that AHETA will take legal action against Thomas Cook as the operator "also decided to make a unilateral discount" of five percent on billing from the months of August and September.

A Thomas Cook spokesperson confirmed to **The Portugal News** this week "we are aware of the situation", but said that they were "not able to comment" on it.

Elidérico Viegas described the situation as being "inadmissible and without justification", adding that the cuts were made via a "pseudo marketing campaign", claiming it was an "unprecedented, abusive and perfectly unacceptable attitude."

As an alternative, Elidérico Viegas believes it is necessary to re-equate promotion and sales strategies, "seeking to establish a direct relationship with clients, via the Internet".

He encouraged his associates to "keep abreast of the situations" and to give the rights of hoteliers as much worth as possible by applying "all legally-allowed means".

Meanwhile Portugal's State Secretary for Tourism has suggested that low-cost carriers

such as Ryanair and easyJet could help fill the void left by Thomas Cook and TUI.

It has been estimated that the tour operators' retraction from the Algarve is equal to the cancellation of some 20,000 seats to the Algarve.

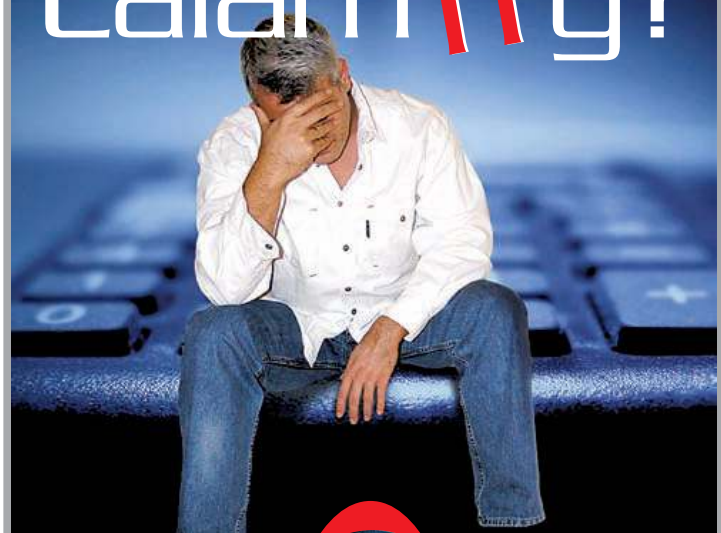
However, easyJet's nine routes to Faro in addition to Ryanair's 18 new routes to and from the region mean a total of 500,000 seats will be provided by the two airlines during winter.

Tourism Secretary Bernardo Trindade said: "The impact of the cancellations is around 20,000 seats during this winter. Now, that evaluation cannot be made in an isolated fashion. We must compare it with the 500,000 seats that (...) are available to the Algarve [courtesy of easyJet and Ryanair]."

"It also means that the Algarve has never had as much available winter capacity as what it will have during the winter of 2010/2011", he concluded.

The state secretary for tourism, Bernardo Trindade, during the presentation of the 2010 programme back in May. (Photo: LUSA/Luis Forra)

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First day of Sunday shopping exceeds expectations



Last Sunday, October 24th, was the first Sunday this year that Portuguese hypermarkets have been allowed to remain open due to an extended timetable.

Consumers told Lusa News Agency journalists that shopping on Sunday afternoons "is more convenient".

In turn, hypermarkets predict more shoppers and a rise in takings.

Manager of the Jumbo hypermarket in Alfragide, Rui Teixeira, estimated that weekend shoppers could increase by between 40 and 50 percent, which will reflect in revenue.

Normally, on weekends, establishments like Jumbo can reap in the region of €600,000 and €700,000, on average.

Rui Teixeira said it was "too early" to have a clear notion of how remaining open on Sunday afternoons will appeal to the public. From this past weekend hypermarkets will be able to stay open until midnight on Sundays

and bank holidays.

He added "We had many requests to extend our opening hours, but many clients didn't know that we couldn't open because of a legal restriction."

The new timetable has implied a re-shuffling of staff that could entail the recruitment of 400 new staff members in the 22 Jumbo establishments alone, as of next year.

Continente and Pão de Açúcar hypermarkets (establishments with a floor space of over 2,000 square metres) will also remain open until midnight on Sundays.

The Portuguese Association for Distribution Companies has estimated that by harmonising the establishments' timetables some 8,000 jobs will be created and an extra €2.5 billion in revenue will be generated by 2017.



Hypermarkets predict more shoppers and a rise in takings. Archive picture. (Photo: António Cotrim / Lusa)

Honest citizen hands in wallet full of cash



A Portuguese immigrant was relieved to be reunited with his lost wallet, containing 8,000 Swiss Francs, which was handed in to the authorities by an honest citizen on Sunday.

"I was very lucky. Losing this money would have meant that I couldn't pay my mortgage or even buy Christmas presents for my children this year. Thank goodness I got it back and there are good people in this world," said the man, who asked not to be named.

The man, who was returning home after working for six months in Switzerland, lost his wallet at Campanhã train station in Oporto moments before boarding a train home.

The honest citizen, who found the wallet on platform eight,

didn't leave a name or contact at the help desk.

"I wanted to thank the person who showed such honesty, but no-one at the train station could tell me who it was. I also wanted to leave a tip for the staff but they refused," said the immigrant.

Once reunited with his wallet, the man said that he would immediately deposit the money into his bank account.

Despite telling his story to the press, the man asked not to be identified for fear of anything bad happening if people found out he had money, equivalent to €5,900.

Retail thefts in Portugal amount to €383 million

Crime has cost Portugal's retail industry around €383 million in one year, according to a study published by the global retail theft barometer.

This study, sponsored by Checkpoint Systems, aimed to monitor the cost of unknown losses caused by thefts, administrative errors and crimes committed by staff in the retail industry between July 2009 and June 2010.

According to the worldwide study, Portugal was ranked sixth in Europe with the lowest amount of unknown losses. Similar to previous years, Portugal's unknown losses remain below the European and global averages.

In 2010, the world's retail in-

dustry lost €87.506 million through crime or administrative errors, a decrease of 5.6 percent compared to the previous year.

The study revealed that losses from unknown causes decreased in every region analysed, with the largest decrease being in the US. India overall had the greatest percentage of loss at 2.72 percent, while Taiwan had the smallest with 0.87 percent.

Joshua Bamfield, author of the study, said that crime in the retail industry costs European families around €140.65 per year.

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PM praises “historic friendship” with Venezuela’s Chávez



Portuguese Prime Minister José Sócrates has praised the “huge development” of trade and cooperation between Portugal and Venezuela in recent years and noted the “historic friendship” linking Lisbon and Caracas.



Venezuelan President Hugo Chávez greets children as he arrives to the Magalhães laptop factory of Portuguese company JP SáCouto, in Oporto, 24 October. Chavez is on an official visit to Portugal to enhance the countries' bilateral relations and to sign agreements with the Portuguese government. (Photo: EPA/José Coelho)

Prime Minister Sócrates signed a new round of economic agreements with visiting Venezuelan President Hugo Chávez on Sunday at the northern city of Viana do Castelo.

The prime minister noted that, in 2007, Portuguese-Venezuelan trade was limited to importing oil from Venezuela and “under €20 million in exports”.

In 2010, Portugal’s exports to Venezuela reached €100 million in the first nine months of the year, Mr. Sócrates said.

“This development of the economic ties in the last two years honours the historic friendship tying our two countries and our two governments”, the prime minister said.

The two leaders signed agreements on shipping, construction and computing – the latter a deal to sell another 1.5 million Portuguese-built “Magellan” computers, one of Mr. Sócrates’ signature projects.

Hugo Chávez told reporters that the Magellan computer is “marvellous”, adding that “every Venezuelan child will have one”.

“They are not a gift to children. That would be like saying that the gun you hand to a soldier when he reports to barracks is a gift. It’s a tool, a marvellous tool”, President Chávez said, adding that the free distribution of computers to school-age children is “part of one of the Bolivarian revolution’s most noble principles: education, a revolution of critical thinking”.

Chávez added that he offered a Magellan computer (rechristened “Canaima” in Venezuela) to Syria’s First Lady in his recent trip to that Middle-Eastern country.

Syria was one of the stops in a

tour that took President Chávez to Russia, Belarus, Iran and Portugal.

President Chávez meanwhile also praised Portugal’s “major contribution towards global development” in the renewable energy field.

“This sort of energy is the future. Some day, oil will end in this planet – let’s hope it happens in 3500 – but some day it will end, and we will need to prepare for the post-oil era”, the Venezuelan leader said.

Meanwhile, President Hugo Chávez said Tuesday that a round of business and trade agreements signed with Portugal and other nations are “legitimate and transparent”.

In a televised address to the nation, he described and justified a series of deals signed in a recent trip that took him to Russia, Belarus, Ukraine, Iran, Syria and Portugal.

Critics in the Venezuelan press charged Mr. Chávez with trading oil for political support in his ongoing war of words with the United States.

“Nobody can say we’re offering anything, not a drop of oil”, he said.

The Venezuelan President mentioned the agreements signed with Portugal’s Prime Minister José Sócrates last weekend, offering as an example the acquisition of “a tremendous ferry[boat]”.

“We’re sending oil and oil-derived products [to Portugal] and the [related revenues] will go into a fund. [Lisbon] pays a percentage, the other percentage, 20 percent, goes into a fund through which we will finance many things”, President Chávez said.

TPN/Lusa

Galician Chamber of Commerce complains to EU about Portugal’s toll scheme



The Galician Chamber of Commerce filed a complaint with the European Commission against Portugal’s new toll roads scheme, arguing in a Tuesday press statement that it violates the European principle of the free circulation of goods and people.

Call for EU-wide ban on ecstasy-like drug mephedrone

The European Commission has called for a dangerous ecstasy-like drug that is still legal in 12 EU countries, including Portugal, to be banned.

The Commission has asked the EU Member States to stop the free spread of the drug ‘mephedrone’ across Europe by submitting it to control measures. Mephedrone is already illegal in 15 EU countries. It has been linked to at least 37 deaths in the UK and Ireland alone.

“Mephedrone is a dangerous drug that is available online and on the street corner. People have already died because of this drug, so I urge governments to move fast to control and criminalise it,” said Vice-President Viviane Reding, the EU’s Justice Commissioner.

“We have a responsibility to protect young people against dangerous new psychoactive substances like

mephedrone.”

Two fatalities have been reported in the EU in which mephedrone appears to be the sole cause of death.

There are at least another 37 deaths in the UK and Ireland alone in which mephedrone has been detected in post-mortem samples.

The Commission’s proposal today would ban the manufacturing and the marketing of mephedrone, submitting it to criminal sanctions all over Europe.

EU governments must now decide on whether to put these measures into force, voting by a qualified majority in the Council.

Mephedrone is a stimulant whose physical effects are comparable to those produced by ecstasy (MDMA) or cocaine. It is mostly sold as powder, but also

as capsules or tablets, on the internet, from ‘head shops’ and from street-level dealers.

A scientific risk assessment carried out by the Lisbon-based European Monitoring Centre on Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) showed that mephedrone can cause acute health problems and lead to dependency, while a few fatalities related to its use have been reported across Europe.

Mephedrone has no established medical value or other known legitimate purpose. It is a controlled substance in 15 EU countries: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malta, Poland, Romania, Sweden and the UK.

The Galician Chamber (ECG), representing businessmen from Spain’s northwestern region of Galicia, joined an outcry over the Portuguese government introduction of tolls in previously pay-free motorways (known in Portugal by the Scut acronym).

Lisbon decided to impose tolls on Scut roads (mainly in Northern Portugal, in regions bordering Galicia) in order to raise revenues to quell its budget crisis.

For technical reasons, it is not viable to build toll booths on Scut roads; cash or bank card payments are thus impossible. Drivers – including foreigners – are forced to acquire an electronic device for automatic payment.

The scheme has been harshly criticised in northern Portugal.

ECG argues that the new tolls will “greatly damage” Galician companies. The complaint also cites discounts for local residents as another source of “unequal treatment”.

ECG is seeking support from Portugal’s and Spain’s chambers of commerce in its complaint.

TPN/Lusa

Speed causes 20 percent of young driver accidents

The risk of death from a traffic accident in people aged between 18 and 24 in Portugal is twice that of all other age groups.

“Young people don’t want campaigns forced upon them,” said Portugal’s secretary of state for youths and sport, Laurentino Dias, at the opening of a twoday workshop organised by the Portuguese Road Accident Prevention Group (PRP) in Lisbon on Monday.

This workshop, gathered members from various organizations that work with or have a link to road safety to brainstorm a strategy to reduce the number of road deaths in young drivers aged between 18 and 24, which account for 16 percent of all road deaths in Portugal.

Anabela Simões, a specialist from Coimbra’s engineering institute said that “limits are tested during youth,” although despite youngsters having faster reaction times, they do not have the automatic reactions that are learnt through experience. She adds that younger drivers interpret risks as being of lesser importance and are easily distracted.

According to her, speed is the

cause of 20 per cent of accidents among young drivers, which occur most often at night and on weekends.

Drugs and alcohol are also high on the list of causes of young driver accidents as well as the number of passengers in a vehicle. More recent habits such as talking on a mobile phone or reading or writing text messages have not yet been taken into account in the road accident statistics in Portugal, however “they are a very common habit among young drivers,” said Anabela Simões.

The aim of the two day workshop therefore is to create an awareness-raising network for young people, by young people. This initiative has been named “Vamos 18-24.”

Willem Vlakveld, a Dutch specialist who was invited to speak at the workshop on Monday said that young people’s driving abilities are not the determining factor, what is, is their ability to use what is in the right circumstances.”

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Chamber of Commerce president says companies must seek opportunities in Lusophone countries



Portugal must use its "competitive advantages" to seek business opportunities in Lusophone countries, Portugal-Angola Chamber of Commerce President Carlos Bayan told Lusa News Agency.

"We know that many countries around the world are feeling the effects of the financial crisis, even Lusophone ones, but we must take advantage of competitive advantages", Mr. Bayan said.

He also called on Portuguese companies to make "triangulation operations",

such as investments linking three different countries, instead of only focusing on bilateral ties.

The Chamber of Commerce president added that a major "competitive advantage" for Portuguese countries operating in Lusophone markets is the "common language" shared by them. *TPN/Lusa*

EC sets out its plans for a new framework for crisis management



The crisis demonstrated clearly that when problems hit one bank, they can spread to the whole financial sector and well beyond the borders of any one country, the European Commission said this week. It also showed that systems were not in place to manage financial institutions facing difficulties.

Very few rules exist to determine which actions should be taken by authorities in the case of a banking crisis. That is why the G20 agreed that crisis prevention and crisis management frameworks had to be set up. The European Commission has responded to this problem by setting out its plans for an EU framework for crisis management in the financial sector. These pave the way for legislation due by spring 2011 which will create a comprehensive crisis management framework for banks and investment firms.

Internal Market and Services Commissioner Michel Barnier said: "First, we must try to avoid a financial crisis in the future. That is why our work to make the banking sector stronger and to create a real supervisory framework is so important. But banks will still face difficulties in the future. They might even fail and should be allowed to do so", he said.

"We need to make sure that they can do so without bringing down the whole financial system, or risking that taxpayers are called on to pay the costs. No bank should be "too big to fail" or too interconnected to fail.

That is why we need a clear framework which ensures authorities throughout Europe are well prepared to deal with banks in difficulty and handle possible bank failures in an orderly manner. That is the aim of today's plans."

The Commission's Communication sets out the main elements that will be part of the

Commission's legislative proposals next year, and is the result of extensive consultations over the past months.

Beyond the immediate priority of putting in place efficient crisis management arrangements in all Member States, the Communication also includes a "roadmap" providing a longer term view of some of the major

challenges which will need to be overcome in order to ensure smooth handling of crises.

The new framework described in the Communication will be broad-ranging and aims to equip authorities with common and effective tools and powers to tackle bank crises at the earliest possible moment, and avoid costs for taxpayers.

Financial troubles will not hurt development aid budget – gov't

Despite Portugal's financial troubles, the country's development aid budget should remain unchanged in 2011 but it will be "very hard" to reach the UN Millennium Goal of 0.7% of the Gross National Product (GNP), State Secretary for Foreign Affairs João Gomes Cravinho said.

"The global aid budget will be clearer in upcoming weeks as we identify all sources, but I think there will not be any cuts", Mr. Cravinho said, adding that it's "difficult" to pinpoint a precise figure as "funding comes from many different departments".

State Secretary Cravinho said Portugal's development

aid should reach 0.4% of GNP, below the UN's 0.7% target.

"In the face of the economic and financial situation, it's very hard to fully achieve our goals in terms of raising development aid", Mr. Cravinho concluded.

TPN/Lusa

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Taxation of Pensions in Portugal

Part nº 4 - Social Security Pensions: Comprehensive Rules by **Dennis Swing Greene**. This is the 4th of a 5-part series on assessment of Private, Social Security and Public Pensions in Portugal

When examining the application of Social Security Pensions in different countries around the European Union, the following important rules will apply:

Aggregation - If you didn't work long enough to qualify for a pension in a country where you worked, you will receive credit for these periods in other countries where you worked and contributed. For example, you moved to Portugal after a long career in the UK. Having worked here for 6 months, you decide to retire. While these contributions will not be sufficient for a Portuguese Social Security pension, they will count towards your Old Age Pension in the UK.

Residence or Stay Abroad - Your old age pension will be paid to you regardless of where you stay or reside within the European Union or the European Economic Area without any reduction, modification or suspension. This applies to former workers as well as to all pensioners residing in another State.

Non-Contributory Pensions - This principle does not apply to certain special benefits which are not based on contributions. In most cases, they are means-tested (i.e. paid to persons whose pensions are below a certain level). These

benefits are paid to you as long as you reside in the State concerned. For example, guaranteed income for the elderly in Belgium, the supplementary allowance from the National Solidarity Fund in France, and non-contributory old age pensions in Ireland and Portugal. In other words, payment of these benefits will be suspended if you transfer your residence to another State, which will then grant you the corresponding benefit, even if you have never worked there.

For example, you live in Portugal, where you receive a non-contributory old-age pension. At the age of 70, you decide to move to France. What happens? Portugal will suspend payment of your non-contributory old age pension, but France must grant you the supplementary allowance from the National Solidarity Fund.

You Have Been Insured in One Single Country - In this case, the amount of your pension will be calculated in accordance with the legislation of that country in exactly the same way as for its own nationals. It does not matter whether or not you reside in that country when you reach pensionable age.

You Have Been Insured in More Than One Country - You will get a pension from every State where you were insured for at least one year. These pensions

will correspond to the insurance periods completed in each of the States concerned.

For example, you were insured for 10 years in Austria, for 25 years in Belgium, and for 5 years in Member State Portugal. This means that you were insured for 40 years in total before you reached pensionable age. Austria will calculate the amount of pension you would be entitled to after 40 years of insurance in that State. It will then pay you the amount corresponding to your actual periods of insurance, i.e. 10/40 (or 1/4) of this amount. Similarly, Belgium will pay you 25/40 (or 5/8) of the amount you would be entitled to in that State after 40 years of insurance. Finally, Portugal will pay you 5/40 (or 1/8) of the amount you would have been entitled to in that State after 40 years of insurance.

Next - Part nº 5: Private Pensions

Dennis Swing Greene is Chairman and International Fiscal Consultant for **euroFINESCO s.a.** Private consultations can be scheduled in **Guia (Albufeira) 289561333, Lisbon (Chiado) 21342421 and in Funchal (Sé), Madeira 291221095**, by e-mail atinfo@eurofinesco.com or on the internet at www.eurofinesco.com.

Oceânico announce new chairman

The Oceânico Group has, at the request of the shareholders Gerry Fagan and Simon Burgess, this week appointed Chris Howell as the Chairman of the Board of Directors to provide support to the shareholders, leadership to the board and assistance to the entire Oceânico team.

In a statement sent to **The Portugal News**, the appointment was said to bring to the Oceânico Group extensive management experience in the leisure, development and hotel industries at the most senior level.

Gerry Fagan commented: "We are pleased to welcome Chris Howell as a significant addition to our senior management team. As we move out of recession, it is essential we continue to maintain stable business relationships with our principal banking partners and agree clear objectives for the future. We have no doubt that Chris's skills will prove invaluable to us as our Chairman."

Chris Howell stated: "I am delighted to be joining the Oceânico Group as their new

Chairman of the Board of Directors. Oceânico has grown in the last 10 years into Portugal's market leader in the property, golf and leisure industry and a well-known and respected brand. I believe that my experience and expertise will lend itself well in assisting Oceânico as it enters into its next decade of business."

The last two years have been particularly difficult for developers as a result of the worldwide recession that has caused a severe downturn in the property market, particularly in Ireland and the UK, both key markets for Oceânico.

But according to Oceânico there are definite signs of recovery in a number of European countries, including the UK.

Oceânico holds an extensive property and golf course portfolio in the Algarve, with a superb

range of high quality properties at Amendoeira Golf Resort, in the municipality of Silves, Belmar Spa & Beach Resort in Lagos and Baía da Luz in Praia da Luz, plus seven championship golf courses, five of which are located in Vilamoura.

Gerry Fagan added: "Oceânico like all property developers has had a challenging two years, we now feel that with the market slowly but surely recovering it's time to look positively to the future. Our golf courses are still thriving and we are delighted to see that our golf operations have not been affected by the likes of new and less known destinations. Portugal has and will retain its quality and we will ensure this high standard throughout our resorts and golf courses is maintained."

QROPS

A QROPS is an overseas pension scheme into which UK private pension rights can be transferred. UK non-residents, or those planning to become non-resident in the next 12 months, can apply to transfer their pension scheme into a QROPS. Applicants must be aged between 18 and 75.

The scheme has to meet certain criteria set out by HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) and act as if it were a UK scheme for QROPS members who have been resident in the UK at any time in the previous five tax years.

A QROPS transfer is not subject to taxation unless it exceeds lifetime allowances, currently £1.8 million (in 2010/2011 tax year).

Advantages of QROPS

A QROPS can offer significant taxation and investment advantages, allowing many UK pension holders to get more out of their UK pension. It provides:

- greater control over where your pension fund is invested
- tax efficiency – you may be able to substantially reduce the tax that you would have to pay when accessing your pension
- inheritance benefits – you can pass on your pension pot to your beneficiary upon death
- simplicity – numerous pensions can be consolidated into one QROPS.

The key attraction of transferring UK pension rights to a QROPS for those who have been non-UK resident for at least five tax years is that the pension fund becomes subject to some of the laws of the relevant overseas jurisdiction.

Since the Finance Act (2008), the argument for the expat transferring UK pension rights to a QROPS has become even more compelling.

Among other advantages is, for example, the fact that the UK requirement to purchase an annuity by age 75 (or be faced with the prospect of a possible 82% tax charge) no longer applies (although this is currently under review and the final outcome is unclear).

In addition, QROPS are free

from UK inheritance tax (IHT), leaving more for the beneficiaries in the event of death.

As QROPS providers in multiple jurisdictions, with an expert team of advisors who have many years' experience of administering pension schemes, we'll help you understand the options available to you.

And if we think that Gibraltar is not the right place for your QROPS, we are able to advise on alternative jurisdictions.

Knowing Your QROPS From Your QNUPS

QNUPS (Qualifying Non-UK Pension Schemes) Regulations [SI 2010/0051] were introduced by HMRC on 15 February 2010 to give IHT protection for pension funds from the UK that were transferred to a QROPS.

The rule change rectified a problem with the Finance Act 2004 which meant that pension funds transferred into a QROPS would become liable to UK IHT.

The move essentially means that a QNUPS has to meet the same requirements as a QROPS but, unlike a QROPS, a QNUPS does not have to be registered with

HMRC.

This means that all assets and contributions paid into a QNUPS, and pensions transferred from the UK, are free of UK IHT.

Whilst a QROPS is by definition a QNUPS, a QNUPS doesn't have to be a QROPS and can offer further advantages to UK taxpayers, offering a wider range of investments.

It is important to note that, whilst non-investment regulated QROPS can be transferred to a QNUPS, regulated QROPS face a 55% charge for an unauthorised payment, so regulated QROPS must first be moved into a non-regulated QROPS before the transfer to a QNUPS.

QNUPS are available to people who are either UK resident, or resident elsewhere in the world but have retained their UK domicile status for IHT.

Essentially, QNUPS can offer a substantial tax planning opportunity, particularly for HNWIs, whether resident in the UK or not.

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Lexus Portugal to recall 100 faulty cars



Toyota's Lexus luxury brand vehicles at a Toyota showroom in Tokyo, Japan. (Photo: EPA / Kimimasa Mayama)

Luxury Japanese car brand Lexus is recalling 100 cars from Portugal in order to inspect and replace two parts, a connector for fuel injection and a part connected to the break motor.

This recall comes after the brand owner Toyota Motors announced that it will have to recall 1.53 million Lexus, Avalon and other models, especially in the US and Japan, to check the fuel injection pipe connector and leak-

ing of break fluid.

In Portugal, 16 GS300 models produced between September 2004 and February 2006 have been affected by the connector issue.

In a statement, Toyota says: "there have not been any reports from national clients, or any accident related to the situation."

The replacement work takes three hours and is free of charge to the client.

Around 80 GS300 and IS 250/220d models produced between September 2004 as December 2005 as well as RX 300/330 models produced between February 2003 and November 2005 have been affected in Portugal by the brake motor fault.

This work is expected to take around two hours.

Clients who have purchased the affected models will be notified in writing.

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'An Algarve Affair' new book by Sylvia Loch

The Griffin Bookshop will be holding a book signing event on Tuesday 2nd November when the author of the novel *An Algarve Affair*, Sylvia Loch, will be talking about her book and the heady life of ex-pat Algarve society in the 1960's and 70's.



Sylvia Loch worked as an editorial assistant at Burke's Peerage and ran the first ever discotheque at sea before opening her business in Portugal. Here in the Algarve, she met and later married Henry Loch, Lord Loch (3rd Baron) of Drylaw.

As Lady Loch, Sylvia lived a busy ex-pat life in the Algarve through out the 1970s, and it was here she started writing *An Algarve Affair*. From their family estate in Suffolk in 1979, Sylvia and Henry worked to have their dressage centre accepted in a world where classical dressage and the Portuguese breed of horse they had brought back with them were unknown. After Lord Loch's death in 1982 Sylvia began to write her serious equestrian and historical books,

and The Royal Horse of Europe won many awards and led to her being presented to HM the Queen and the President of Portugal at a state visit at Buckingham Palace in 1993.

Now remarried and living in the Scottish Borders with 7 non-fiction books and 10 DVDs to her name, Sylvia returned to her former passion – fiction writing. *An Algarve Affair* is 530 pages of illicit affairs, moral quandaries, gossip and gin, parties and intrigue, penned by a skilled writer.

Go along on 2nd November for drinks and literary chat! Griffin Bookshop, Rua 5 de Outubro 206-A, 8135-103, Almancil. Call 289 393 904 griffinbookshop@sapo.pt www.griffinbookshop.com

Strategic branding for companies on a tight budget

Design strategy and digital marketing in business were the themes for the Algarve women's Business Network meeting held on the 19th October in Albufeira.

Independent design consultant Suzi Steinhofel of Designworks! spoke about the strategy behind good design and the essentials required for setting up a business, she demonstrated how potential clients perceive image and branding, and how being off-brand could affect sales. Suzi's essentials of design for business included the logo, application to business cards, letterheads, email stationery and self promotion, and the presentation included plenty of advice on how to achieve the best results on a limited budget while giving a professional and credible visual impression of your company.

Stuart Gill, digital strategist and information architect of Set The Screen, then talked about how essential it is for businesses to communicate their product and service offerings effectively on the web. With the small business in mind Stuart demonstrated how a site consisting of just one web page could be loaded with targeted and 'findable' information to optimise your web presence. Stuart went on to show how, having established the strategic objectives beforehand, a mediocre site with little traffic could be completely transformed. He also spoke about keywords, SEO, and the use of social media

in business.

With a diverse attendance ranging from landscape gardening to hoteliers to therapists and business financiers, everyone agreed the session provided useful and take-away advice that could be implemented in their own businesses.

The event was kindly hosted by Eduarda Barbara at the Algarve Golf Academy in Quinta do Brejos and was organised by Helen Jones of Pelican Business Services. The next meeting is on November 16th – 'Business Review and Planning – crucial ingredients for growth and success'. For more details please contact Helen on 282 760 548 or join the AWBN group on LinkedIn – www.linkedin.com.



Stuart Gill, Suzi Steinhofel, Helen Jones, Eduarda Bárbara

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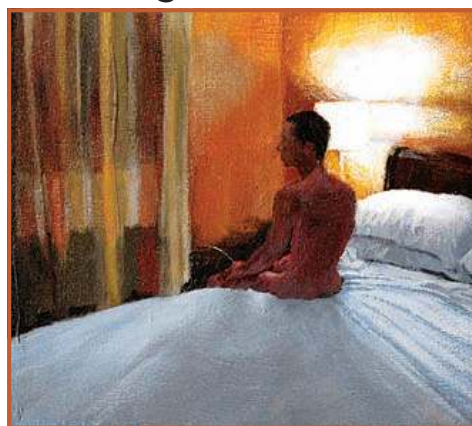
The condition of being human

Paintings by American artist Jeanine Leclair are the latest addition to Galeria Corte-Real in Paderne. Renowned for its collection of international art, the gallery is her sole representative in Europe.

Highly regarded in the USA, Jeanine Leclair's paintings combine accurate representation with controversial subject matter. Often featuring naked or partly clothed people in the bedroom or bathroom, each scene portrays real life exactly as it is.

Specialising in 'humanitis' – the condition of being human – when the owners of Galeria Corte-Real came across her paintings in Philadelphia they were enthralled.

Just 30 years of age, Jeanine Leclair is already recognised for her prestigious talent. Artist-in-Residence at the Roger LaPelle Gallery in Philadelphia's Old City Art District, her work was



selected to appear in a recently published coffee table art book entitled 'Powerfully Beautiful'. I.S.B.N. 978 – 1442167193

Galeria Corte-Real is sign-

posted from Paderne, Boliqueime and Ferreiras. Open Thursday to Sunday 11am to 5pm. Call 918 980 199 or 912 737 762.

Faro Jewish Heritage Centre launches City Walks

The Faro Jewish Heritage Centre is proud to present an exciting new project; it is launching walking tours around the city to visit some of the most historically important and interesting spots relevant to Jewish history.

The guide, Mr. António Valente, at the centre, has done extensive research into where those who are buried at the 170-year-old cemetery (1858-1939)

lived and where their places of business were in Faro.

The map below indicates where these were situated.

In November there will be the first walking tour in the old city of Faro, visiting the site of the houses and businesses. In order to orientate those joining the walk the first step will be to view the USA Tele-award winning 30-minute DVD 'Without the Past', at the Heritage Centre.

This will give viewers a full

story about the Jews who arrived with the Romans and those who returned to Faro in the 19th Century.

After the DVD the walking will commence with an estimated total time of two hours and forty-five minutes, from beginning to end.

Book by calling 289 829 525. Tours can be guided in English, Portuguese and French. Donations are requested as there is no formal fee.



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Police arrest Italian citizen with suspected Sicilian Mafia ties

Portugal's criminal investigation police (PJ) have announced the arrest of a group of seven people in the central area of Bombarral and Torres Novas. One member of the group is suspected to have ties to the Sicilian Mafia, police said.

The individuals detained last Friday include two Portuguese citizens, one Brazilian and four Italians. They are aged between 25 and 50.

The seven will be charged with "car theft, larceny, trade in sto-

len goods, criminal conspiracy and money laundering".

One of the Italian nationals has a pending European arrest warrant for "ties to the Sicilian Mafia", Portuguese police sources said. *TPN/Lusa*



An alleged member of the Sicilian mafia, Giovanni Lore pictured here in the company of PJ detectives who escorted him to the Leiria Magistrate's Court on Monday. (Photo: Lusa/Paulo Cunha)

Military to prune 3,000 next year

Portugal's defence minister said Friday the 3,000 contracted military personnel to be cut under the government's proposed austerity budget would be phased out over one year by controlling recruitment in 2011.

"It's not a matter of reduction in 'stock', but a question of regulating the flow of recruitment" next year, Augusto Santos Silva told journalists.

He said the drawdown would be shared among all three branches of the Armed Forces in dialogue with the respective chiefs of staff.

The minister also said that a proposed 18% cut in funds for the military's health assistance

programme left "adequate" financing and that the planned transfer of the military pension programme to the general public employees scheme would keep all benefits intact.

The government aims to cut this year's projected deficit of 7.6% to 4.6% in 2011, proposed belt-tightening that involves heavy spending cuts and some tax hikes.

TPN/Lusa

Parliament defeats protest motions against upcoming Lisbon NATO summit

The Portuguese parliament has defeated three leftist motions of protest over Lisbon's hosting of the NATO summit next month.

Ruling Socialist and centre-right Social Democratic and Popular Party lawmakers voted

down the motions presented by the Greens, Communists and Left Bloc.

Socialist MP Júlio Miranda Calha said the alliance summit scheduled for November 19-20 would adopt a new "strategic concept" aimed to combat "new

threats", like international terrorism.

Noting that Russian President Dmitri Medvedev would attend the meeting, Miranda Calha said NATO was an "essential component for making a more secure, more peaceful world" and that

Portugal was proud to contribute to this goal.

The legislature also discussed a citizens' petition with 13,000 signatures protesting the holding of the summit in the Portuguese capital.

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Portugal falls in press freedom index



The annual Press Freedom Index published by Reporters Without Borders has placed Portugal ten places lower than the ranking it was awarded last year, and has been overtaken by its former colony Cape Verde on the list.

"Our latest world press freedom index contains welcome surprises, highlights sombre realities and confirms certain trends," Reporters Without Borders secretary-general Jean-François Julliard said as his organisation issued its ninth annual index.

"More than ever before, we see that economic development, institutional reform and respect for fundamental rights do not necessarily go hand in hand. The defence of media freedom continues to be a battle, a battle of vigilance in the democracies of old Europe and a battle against oppression and injustice in the totalitarian regimes still scattered across the globe.

"It is disturbing to see several European Union member countries continuing to fall in the index. If it does not pull itself together, the European Union risks losing its position as world leader in respect for human rights", adding: "There is an urgent need for the European countries to recover their exemplary status."

Reporters Without Borders has repeatedly expressed its concern about the deteriorating press freedom situation in the European Union and the 2010 index con-

firms this trend. Thirteen of the EU's 27 members are in the top 20 but some of the other 14 are very low in the ranking.

Portugal is 40th, Italy is 49th, Romania is 52nd and Greece and Bulgaria are tied at 70th. The European Union is not a homogenous whole as regards media freedom. On the contrary, the gap between good and bad performers continues to widen.

There has been no progress in several countries where Reporters Without Borders pointed out problems. They include, above all, France and Italy, where events of the past year – violation of the protection of journalists' sources, the continuing concentration of media ownership, displays of contempt and impatience on the part of government officials towards journalists and their work, and judicial summonses – have confirmed their inability to reverse this trend.

Several countries share first place in the index again. This year it is Finland, Iceland, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland. They have all previously held this honour since the index was created in 2002. Norway and Iceland have always been among



People display the Italian Constitution in a 'No gag' rally against the bill about information interceptions in Rome, Italy, 01 July. (Photo: EPA/Guido Montani)

the countries sharing first position except in 2006 (Norway) and 2009 (Iceland). These six countries, according to Reporters Without Borders, set an example in the way they respect journalists and news media and protect them from judicial abuse.

In recent years, Reporters Without Borders drew particular attention to the three countries that were always in the last three positions – Eritrea, North Korea and Turkmenistan. This year, a bigger group of ten countries – marked by persecution of the media and a complete lack of

news and information – are clumped together at the bottom.

It is worth noting that, for the first time since the start of the index in 2002, Cuba is not one of the 10 last countries. This is due above all to the release of 14 journalists and 22 activists in the course of the past summer. But the situation on the ground has not changed significantly. Political dissidents and independent journalists still have to deal with censorship and repression on a daily basis.

Freedom is not allowed any space in Burma, where a parlia-

mentary election is due to be held next month, and the rare attempts to provide news or information are met with imprisonment and forced labour.

Finally, in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Somalia and Mexico, countries either openly at war or in a civil war or some other kind of internal conflict, we see a situation of permanent chaos and a culture of violence and impunity taking root in which the press has become a favourite target.

Meanwhile, the Cape Verdean government reacted proudly at the news it was the highest ranking

Portuguese-speaking country in the Index (26th).

"The government is proud that Cape Verde had such a significant improvement in the ranking, thus proving the country enjoys real freedom of the press, which is a fundamental value requiring everyone's effort", a government statement read.

Cape Verde is not only the highest ranking among the eight Community of Portuguese Language Countries members, but also the second highest ranking among African nations, below only Namibia (22nd).

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Buying a new Laptop?



Choosing a laptop computer is like choosing any product - you need to consider the different features each product has to offer and then decide on which one is best for you. However, laptops are complex pieces of computer hardware, and that makes it hard to tell what features are the most important.



Comparing Laptop Computers

You've decided that you need a new laptop. Your old one is big, bulky, and runs out of battery life quicker than you can snap your fingers. It is simply time to upgrade.

The good news is that laptops are constantly becoming more affordable and more powerful. The bad news is that the market is bigger than ever, which means you have to choose from a wider variety of options. To decide what you want you must compare laptop computers, but there are so many laptops available that it can be hard to determine where to

start. In this article I will help you compare laptop computers by focusing on specific attributes like the processor, the display and the battery. Once you know more about the parts that make up a laptop you'll have an easier time deciding on which laptop to buy.

The Processor

The processor (CPU) is the most important piece of hardware the average buyer should focus on when he or she needs to compare laptop computers. The reason for this is that the processor plays a larger role in how quickly your computer can perform most tasks.

AMD and Intel are the two major processor companies in to-

day's market. Intel has the best products in terms of absolute performance and battery life. However, AMD produces better value for money processors. The Lenovo ThinkPad Edge, for example, is cheaper when configured with an AMD processor.

The number of cores on your laptop's processor will have a big impact on performance. A core is a processing unit capable of independently executing code. Most

of today's laptops are dual-core models, as this offers a balanced compromise between performance and battery life. However, some larger laptops have quad-core processors. These are very fast, and good for laptops that will always be plugged into a power point. Quad-core laptops typically last no more than two hours before a recharge is needed, and even that is stretching it.

Clock speed which is measured in hertz (e.g. 2.8GHz) is a measure of how quickly a computer completes basic computations and operations. It has somewhat importance but the architecture (the underlying design) of processors has the biggest impact on performance. To make things easier I have listed the most common processors below and ranked them in terms of performance from slowest to fastest.

AMD

- Athlon Neo
- Athlon Neo X2
- Athlon or Turion X2
- Athlon II X2/X3/X4
- Phenom II X2/X3/X4

Intel

- Atom
- Atom Dual Core
- Core 2 Duo
- Celeron Dual Core
- Pentium Dual Core
- Core i3
- Core i5
- Core i7

RAM

Another component you might consider when you compare laptop computers is the RAM. This is much easier to compare than processors. The more RAM the better. 2GB of RAM is better than 1GB. Yes, there are differ-

ent speeds of RAM available, but real-world performance variances between RAM speeds is so small that there is no need to worry about it.

Generally speaking, you should not settle for less than 2GB of RAM in anything except for a netbook. 4GB of RAM is preferable.

Graphics

You should never forget graphics when making a laptop comparison unless you truly have no intentions to ever run any games on it. There is a massive difference between the fastest and slowest graphic cards, so it is important to buy a laptop with a graphics card that fits your needs.

The most basic form of graphics is integrated graphics. These types of graphic processors share system memory. Examples include Nvidia's 9400M, the ATI HD 3200/4200, and Intel HD graphics. Although there are some performance differences between these various brands, the truth of the matter is you will not have an enjoyable gaming experience with any type of integrated graphic solution.

You should rather look for a dedicated graphics solution when making your laptop comparison. A dedicated graphics processor has its own memory. The most basic dedicated solutions include the Nvidia 310M and ATI Radeon 5470. These are capable of playing most games at low definition settings. For a real gaming experience you'll need something beefier, such as the Nvidia 330M GPU or ATI Radeon 5730.

Display

It is easy to forget about the display when making a laptop comparison, but you should always consider it before buying. The display is what you'll be staring at for as long as you use the laptop, so it should be a good one.

Most displays are very glossy. This makes colors appear more vivid and also makes the laptop appear more attractive when not in use (i.e. when it is in a store). However, glossy displays are hard to use outdoors and in brightly lit rooms. Matt displays provide less attractive visuals, but they don't create distracting reflections. Matt displays are rare - you'll usually have to buy a business-oriented laptop like a Lenovo Thinkpad if you want one.

The display resolution is also important. Most PC users assume a larger display will be able to display more information, but that isn't the case. It is the resolution - the number of pixels on the screen - that makes it possible to display more information. If you increase a display's size, but don't increase the resolution, you'll simply display the same amount of information in a larger area.

The most common resolution found today is 1366x768. This is fine for laptops with a display size of 14 inches or smaller, but you'll also find this on many 15 inch laptops. Laptops of that size are often better with a higher resolution, such as 1600x900, but not all large laptops give you that option.

Ports and Connections

Don't forget to check the available connections when making a laptop comparison. Some laptops will have numerous connections, such as FireWire, USB 2.0 and HDMI, making it easier to plug in peripherals like portable hard drives, digital cameras and even HDTV's. Make sure that the laptop has a decent amount of connections to handle all of your current peripherals before you buy.

Battery Life

Battery life may or may not be important when making your laptop comparison. Consider how you will use your laptop and how often it will be used away from a power point. If it is always going to be plugged in you don't need to worry about battery life. This means you can buy the fastest, biggest laptop that you can afford.

If you do use your laptop away from a power point, how often do you/will you do so? Will you be using it for an hour on the couch? Three hours at a local coffee shop? Six hours during a work day?

Also, keep in mind that the battery life figures quoted in marketing materials are typically best-case scenarios. They are usually 20% more than what you can achieve in the real-world. Read reviews about the laptops you are considering to buy in order to find out how the true battery life stacks up to the claims.

Conclusion

These are the most important variables to consider when you are thinking of buying a laptop. There are others, of course - such as the laptop's design and weight - but these tend to be less important. Comparing laptops based on the information in this article should help you to narrow the field down to just a few...

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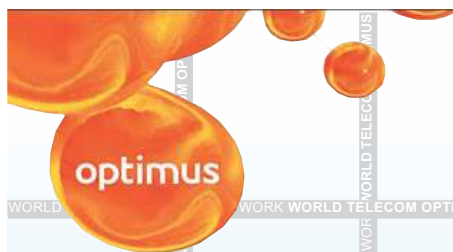


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The Importance of the Middle East

The media in the Middle East carry a lot of Middle Eastern stories, of course, but why do most of the other media in the world do the same? Asian media strike a better balance, but Western media, and any other media that basically follow the American news agenda, focus obsessively on the region. Between a third and a half of all foreign news stories in the Western print and broadcast media are usually about the Middle East.



Like fish that never notice the medium they swim in, people tend not to remark upon this familiar aspect of their media environment. I didn't really become aware of it myself until I flew into Canada a few years ago, got a copy of the *Globe and Mail*, "Canada's National Newspaper," and found that every single story on the two pages of foreign news it offers was about the Middle East.

Eight or nine stories, about Iran and Afghanistan, Israel and Palestine, oil and refugees and Iraq. Canada has troops in Afghanistan, so maybe that one is understandable, but there was no big war on, no vast crisis, just business as usual. Yet all the stories that might have been there about Latin America, Europe, Africa and Asia had been crowded out by Middle Eastern stories. I doubt that anybody at the paper even noticed how weird that was.

This is a phenomenon that cries out for an explanation, and it's not easy to find a credible one. It's certainly not oil, which is the lazy explanation. Oil is quite important in the global economy, and the Middle East has a large share of the market and an even bigger share of the reserves. But it's been 37 years since the oil-rich Arab states once refused to sell their oil, and they couldn't do that again.

Not WOULD'N'T; it's not a question of trust. COULDN'T, because it would cause far too much disruption in their own economies. The 1973 oil embargo took place at a time when most of the major Arab oil-exporting countries had populations two or three times smaller than they are now, and when their people did not live in full-fledged consumer societies.

It's different now. The cash flow from oil exports pays not just for imported cars and plasma-screen TVs, but for the very food that the local people eat: most Arab oil-exporting states import half or more of the food they consume. They also have huge investments in the Western economies that an oil embargo would hurt. Another oil embargo isn't going to happen, and stories about oil belong on the business pages.

Well, then, how about the fact that the United States has invaded two Middle Eastern countries in the past ten years, and still has troops in both of them? Does that explain the obsessive focus on the Middle East?

No, because the obsession was there before the invasions. In fact, the causation is probably the other way round: the exaggerated

importance with which Americans already viewed the Middle East was almost certainly a contributory factor in the Bush administration's decisions to invade Afghanistan and Iraq.

The main factor in the Afghan decision, of course, was the foolish belief that invading Afghanistan would somehow help to suppress anti-American terrorism rather than stimulate more of it. Almost nobody in Washington seemed aware that they were falling into a trap laid for them by Osama bin Laden. The invasion of Iraq had more complex and even less rational motives, but was equally driven by the mistaken belief that this was a very important place.

The greater Middle East contains about ten percent of the world's population. The Arab world at its heart is only five percent. The whole region accounts for only three percent of the global economy, and produces almost nothing of interest to the rest of the world except oil. So why does it dominate the international news agenda?

The Europeans play a role in this, because the media in the former imperial powers take a greater interest in their former colonies than in other countries of equal importance. But the American media really set the agenda, and their fascination with the Middle East requires a different explanation.

A large part of it is driven by the deep emotional investment in Israel that many Americans have. Israel is not viewed as just another foreign country, to be weighed by its strategic and economic importance. It is seen as a special place, almost an American protectorate, and its foreign policy agenda (which is all about the Middle East) largely sets the US media agenda.

The other big factor is the lasting American obsession with Iran, which is as great as the obsession with Cuba. Both countries have successfully defied the United States, and that has been neither forgiven nor forgotten.

Combine the love for Israel and the hatred of Iran, and you have an explanation for the American media's obsession with the entire Middle Eastern region. Most media elsewhere, especially in the West, just follow suit. It's a huge distortion that leads to the neglect of much important news about the rest of the world, but at least the Middle East gives good value for money. The news it generates is unfailingly interesting.

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Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, US President Barack Obama, Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas, and Jordan's King Abdullah walk toward the East Room of the White House for statements on the first day of the Middle East peace talks, in Washington DC on September 1st. (EPA/Alex Wong/POOL)



Gwynne Dyer is a London based independent journalist whose articles are published in 45 countries.

Cascais beaches at their best



The deputy mayor of Cascais said on Tuesday that the council has had "a very positive" bathing season this year and admitted the possibility of applying for a blue flag, having not had one this year.

"Our beaches are in excellent condition, and we would most certainly receive a blue flag if we applied for one," said deputy mayor Carlos Carreiras.

He added that none of Cascais' beaches have a blue flag because the town hall didn't apply as a form of protest against the application process.

"If they alter the evaluation criteria we will apply, if they don't then we will not," said Mr Carreiras, adding that despite the lack of blue flags, a report about the 2010 bathing season shows that Cascais' beaches are of "excellent quality."

"Cascais' beaches haven't been this good in 30 years," he added.

The report shows that from 709 water analyses carried out in the council's 17 bathing areas, all have excellent water quality and good sand quality. It also shows that there were no deaths along the Cascais coast throughout the official bathing season, although 3,789 people received first aid. This was thanks in part to Associação Sanas, an association of volunteer life guards who kept a permanent watch over the coastal areas.

In preparation for the bathing season, Cascais Town Hall invested €1.5 million to clean up several rivers as well as maintain public furniture, toilets and to remove graffiti.



A view of the Cascais coastline with Estoril's famous Tamariz beach in the forefront. (Photo: The Portugal News)

Lisbon's Ribeiro market welcomes €4 million cultural project in 2012

Recreational facilities including a disco with a bar, a show room, a conference area and food court with an esplanade are due to be built at Lisbon's renowned Ribeiro market in 2012.

Lisbon town hall presented the winning project on Monday along with its authors of 'Time Out' magazine, which will see a (transformation) 5,500 square metre of the first floor as well as part of the ground floor of the market.

During a press conference, João Cepeda from 'Time Out' said that this is the first time that an editorial publication runs a large public space in Portugal and justified the initiative with the press as being able to "be innovative and give people experiences."

To reach its objectives, the project includes, for example, a restaurant, a shop, a kiosk and an information and tourism area. "People asked for gastronomy, culture, cinema and we replied with a project that can be a real version of what the magazine talks about," said Mr Cepeda, who believes that despite the economic crisis, the public will want to use the space.

This project, designed by architectural firm Aires Mateus, will mean construction work to the value of more than €4 million as well as a monthly investment of €12,000 for 20 years.

According to João Cepeda, the space will change throughout the years in order to make the Ribeiro market "a shop window for the best things that there are in the city."

Lisbon mayor, António Costa said that the Ribeiro market will not cease to exist, but will instead be renovated and transformed, making it internationally renowned.

"Either markets modernise and have movement or they enter into decline. We have to invest in the renovation of these spaces," he said, adding that in his opinion, shopping centres may have some future in the suburbs but that people wanted to rediscover true markets in urban centres.

Zero tolerance on illegal parking in Sintra

Sintra town hall is cracking down on illegal parking with help from the municipal parking company and police force by clamping and towing vehicles.

The campaign, which was due to start this week, is aimed at increasing the efficiency of the paid for parking areas as well as avoiding traffic congestion.

Vehicles will now be clamped if they are parked on public footpaths and zebra crossings, or violate the Highway Code. Vehicles that do not pay for parking or are parked for too long

after the time limit expires in paid for parking areas will also be clamped and later towed.

For ordinary vehicles, fines will cost €30 for clamping and €50 if it has been towed. This will increase by ten euros per day until the vehicle is claimed by its owner.

Ana Neri, Commissioner of Sintra municipal police said that although the initiative is starting in Sintra, "it doesn't mean that we won't also police illegal parking in other parts of the council like Cacém or Queluz."

€1.8 million spent on Lisbon's botanical gardens

Lisbon town hall was due to discuss a proposal this week to pay more than €1.8 million for the refurbishment of the capital's renowned indoor botanical gardens Estufa Fria near the Eduardo VII park, which is to reopen to the public in November.

The indoor botanical garden was closed in May 2009 due to the risk of collapse. A month after the closure, Lisbon town hall decided to award the refurbishment project to construction company HCI Construções. The work included replacing both structures for the 'sweet' and 'cold' greenhouses, which were built in 1933 over an area of 1.5

hectares to house a variety of plant species.

The Portuguese institute for archaeological and architectural heritage management (Igespar) agreed to the proposals in February this year, allowing work to finally start in March.

According to the proposals, the final cost of the work is €1.714 million, plus €103,000 IVA.

Hundreds of false masterpieces seized in Cascais



Portugal's criminal investigation police (PJ) has arrested a Portuguese-Norwegian woman at her home in Cascais in possession of 130 fake masterpieces and forged certificates of authenticity.

The fake paintings, which the woman was allegedly trying to sell as the real thing, were copies of works by renowned artists such as Leonardo da Vinci, Picasso, Matisse, Monet, Kandinsky, Modigliani, Miro, Chagall and Portuguese artist Maria Helena Vieira da Silva, among others.

During a press conference on Monday about the investigation, code named 'treasure trove', João Oliveira, inspector of the PJ's art branch said: "This is the largest amount of false works of art ever seized in Portugal, and one of the largest in Europe."

He added: "If these paintings

had entered the market as real, we would be faced with a con worth hundreds of thousands of euros."

Following her arrest, the woman has been released on bail until her trial, but must report regularly to the police and is forbidden to leave the country.

"Due to the diversity of the painters and the distinctive techniques, we believe that many of these paintings were made abroad," said Inspector Oliveira.

Many of the paintings were bad imitations, although some bore a striking resemblance to the real deal and along with a false certificate of authenticity, provided by the Luso-Norwegian

dealer, would likely have fooled many discerning buyers.

In total, the PJ have seized around 300 false works of art this year alone, which according to Inspector Oliveira points

to Portugal being an important route for illegal dealers.

Anyone who has bought a painting by a famous artist is encouraged to go to the PJ to check its authenticity.

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New exhibition opens at Portimão museum



The exhibition shows Portimão from being part of a monarchy to being a republic.

Portimão's municipal museum has a new exhibition which shows visitors how the city evolved during the 20th century.

Staff at the museum have organised the exhibition, which through historical documents and photographs records the transition of Portimão from being part of a monarchy to a republic. This exhibition is part of a regional project entitled 'Algarve: from Kingdom to Region,' which features 11 other exhibitions.

The exhibition is open to the public on Tuesdays from 14h30 until 18h00 and Wednesdays until Sundays from 10h00 until 18h00.

For more information please telephone: 282 405 265.

Iberian Lynx centre celebrates first anniversary

Silves-based Iberian Lynx reproduction centre, the first of its kind in Portugal, has celebrated one year since the arrival of the first of 16 Lynx that now live there.

Five-year-old female Lynx Azahar was the first to arrive at the specially-built facility in Silves county on October 26th, 2009, followed by a further 15 felines which were all introduced to the centre by December 1st of last year.

Two Lynx cubs were born within the first season at the new centre, however both died within a few days from bacterial infection and congenital problems.

Despite the set back, Lurdes de Carvalho, national coordinator for the action plan to save the Lynx, believes that the first year has been a success, marking the

first proven birth of the species in Portugal in the last 30 years.

"It was a success for reproduction to occur in the first season that the centre opened, especially with an animal like Azahar, who had failed twice to reproduce in Spain," she said.

Alexandra Cunha from Portugal's Nature Protection League (LPN) said: "We were all amazed that reproduction took place, because without the perfect conditions, reproduction is very difficult in this species. The work being done is within expectations, despite the deaths of the cubs."

In March, the reproduction centre suffered another minor setback as one of the females, Espiga, came down with chronic kidney infection, a common illness among Iberian Lynx in captivity, although she recovered after treatment.

While the Silves-based centre celebrated the first anniversary of the arrival of its first Iberian Lynx, the Algarve University was also due to host the first seminar about the species. The two day event held on Thursday and Friday and organised with LPN aimed to promote the exchange of information between professionals who work with the Iberian Lynx.

Part of the seminar was also due to be dedicated to raising awareness among the general population, in order to prepare for the final phase of the project, which foresees the release of Iberian Lynxes into the wild.

Iberia's Lynx population stood at around 1,200 specimens in 1988, which gradually fell to just around 200 in 2005, making the Iberian Lynx one of the most endangered animals in the world.

Olhão Town Hall faces environmental fine

Olhão Town Hall could be made to pay a fine for the illegal dumping of waste materials in the Ria Formosa natural park, according to the regional development commission (CCDR).

The CCDR lodged a formal complaint against the town hall for dumping waste in Olhão's western landfill site in December 2009.

Since the notification by the CCDR, the town hall has removed all of the waste material as well as placed barriers preventing access to the site and further illegal dumping.

Olhão Town Hall has also retreated the front of the landfill by three metres.

A spokesman from the CCDR told Lusa News Agency that a meeting is due to take place next week between the commission and the town hall to set a date for the resolution of the problem, which will only be fully resolved with the Ria Formosa Polis programme.

"The fine itself will depend on the outcome of the meeting and the plan to resolve the problem," said the spokesman, who added that it could be anywhere between €7,500 and €44,000.

A spokesman from the Ria Formosa Polis programme confirmed to Lusa that the landfill was inside the limits of Olhão's riverside park and that the renewal project of the area will start in 2011.

The Polis project will include the refurbishment of run down areas along the western part of Olhão's riverside area, west of the port.

Olhão town hall has, for now, opted not to comment on the issue.

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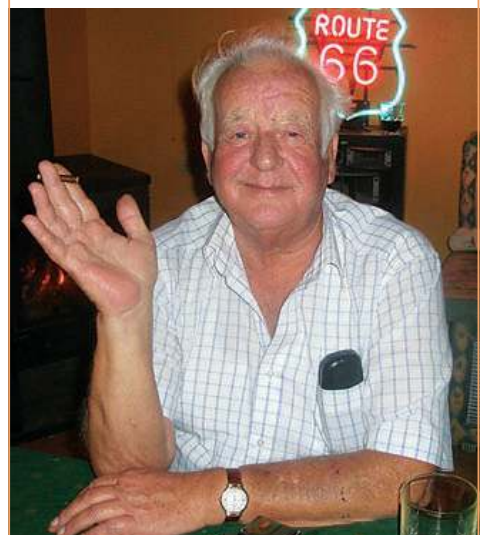
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Obituary Allan Aldridge



Regretfully Allan Aldridge passed away suddenly on Monday 11th October. He lived in the Algarve for 20 years and made many friends through ten-pin bowling and sailing. He will be sadly missed, especially by his family.

Lifeline legacy reunites animal charities

Carrie-Marie Bratley

A considerable legacy bequeathed by an Algarve resident specifically for animal welfare has helped reunite two of the region's longest-running animal charities. Fifteen years after they split, the Association for the Protection of Animals in the Algarve (APAA) and the Donkey Sanctuary will once again join forces and use the donation to ensure the continuing welfare of the Algarve's neglected animals.

A €100,000 legacy was bequeathed by Inez Soares da Rosa after she passed away in September 2007. She left it on the understanding it be bestowed to an animal charity in the Algarve. Earlier this year the executors of her estate announced that the APAA, an associate of RSPCA International, had been elected the sole beneficiary of the donation.

The association's initial plans were to build a rescue centre.

Several months later a merger between the association and the Donkey Sanctuary was announced, to the "delight" of both parties.

Founded by Peter Lander and Nan Richardson in 1991, the Donkey Sanctuary is currently home to 30 cats, 120 dogs and 10 donkeys and mules. The land on which the Sanctuary is situated, which is owned by Peter and Nan, is to be 'gifted' to the APAA, who will use the money to improve the existing facilities.

Alan Camplin-Smith, President of the APAA, said: "this is a very generous gesture. We are delighted that Peter and Nan believe APAA has the skills and organisation to carry on their work and we will be leaning heavily on their expertise."

"We have had a lack of success in finding land on which to build our own rescue centre; although this merger does not increase the number of rescue centres in the Algarve, it does mean that the merged organisation will be in a stronger position to continue and expand the animal welfare work for which both charities were originally set up."

The APAA's existing management board will be increased by three new members drawn from the Donkey Sanctuary. Nan Richardson accepted an invitation to fill one of these places.

The Donkey Sanctuary has asked that the rescue centre continues to be known as the 'Don-

key Sanctuary', to which APAA agreed. The merged charity will be known as 'APAA (incorporating the Donkey Sanctuary)' and will use both charities' logos.

A first plan of action is to improve the Sanctuary's clinic, refurbishing and reequipping it.

The clinic will bear Inez Soares da Rosa's name and is hoped to boost neutering and spaying. Local vets are being approached to offer one morning or afternoon per month to volunteer their services at the clinic.

Chris Cottis, who moved to Portugal in the early eighties and who has been involved with the Donkey Sanctuary since its founding, explained to *The Portugal News*, "They [the APAA] wanted to build a new centre, but nowadays you can hardly buy a plot of land for that money, let alone build new facilities. Nan and Peter had the land and infrastructures."

In recent years the Donkey Sanctuary has been beleaguered by setbacks. It was particularly hard-hit when the Algarve's A22/Via do Infante motorway was built straight through the middle of the land, slicing off a third of the overall area in the process. That land subsequently became inaccessible.

"They [the Government] first told us that an underpass would be built so we could get to the land, but in the end we didn't even receive enough compensation to build a new fence", Chris says.

Fundraisers and the Sanctuary's two charity shops have kept the refuge surviving, but with monthly expenditures in excess of €7,000 being spent on the animals alone, and with both founders fighting ill health (Peter



The APAA and the Donkey Sanctuary have merged to ensure the welfare of abandoned and stray animals in the Algarve. (Photo: Carrie-Maie Bratley)

has since officially retired), times have been getting tougher.

"The past few years have been a constant struggle", Chris revealed, vowing, "If it wasn't for this [merger] we would struggle on".

Many of the animals are rescued from the streets, hungry and injured. A large number of animals, particularly old dogs, puppies and kittens, are abandoned at the refuge's gates. In the past, plastic bags with kittens inside have been hung on the gates, while puppies have literally been thrown over the top of them.

"We could go out there and fill a van [with abandoned and stray animals] every day", Chris lamented.

Valerie Nicolas, who has worked at the refuge for seven years added, "We are very glad

[about the merger], it is a relief. We were concerned as there wasn't a contingency plan in place, but this will assure the future of these animals."

In related news, the Sanctuary's most recent fund-raising Bingo evening hit record highs. An unprecedented €1,090 was raised from a record attendance of more than 70 people.

"We would like to thank Tim from Phoenix Nites for generously donating the Christmas dinner for ten, which was auctioned and raised €250. This made all the difference", Chris stressed.

The Donkey Sanctuary would also like to appeal to readers for

any unneeded medicines or medical accessories (such as bandages, plasters, disinfectant lotions and creams, etc), which – unbeknown

to many – can be used for the animals.

For more information, call Chris Cottis: (+351) 966 033 127.

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Portimão's new shopping centre Aqua Portimão wins an international award.

Portimão project wins international award



Portimão's new shopping centre Aqua Portimão, which is currently under construction, has won 'Best Retail Development' in the Europe and Africa Properties Awards 2010.

Aqua Portimão received the accolade at a London awards ceremony, part of Bloomberg Television's International Property Awards, at the end of September. Oscar Cabanes Rodriguez, General Director of Bouygues

Immobilier, who are the developers of Aqua Portimão, said that the award "represents that Bouygues Immobilier's know-how in retail development has been recognized by the real estate world."

Designed by Sua Kay Architects, the 35,500 square metre shopping centre, which includes 1,800 parking spaces, 130 shops, 20 restaurants and an Auchan supermarket, is due to be inaugurated in March next year.

Would-be rapist avoids jail



A 26-year-old Portuguese man who attempted to rape a British holidaymaker during a night out in Praia da Rocha has been spared jail after being handed a suspended sentence of four years and five months.

Identified as Fábio Costa, reports claim the would-be rapist was spared a jail term due to his university studies, stable professional situation, the fact he had no prior criminal record and because the crime was not consummated.

He was sentenced by the courts in Portimão this week.

The attacker has been instructed to pay €2,000 to the Association for Victim Support (APAV) as well as €5,000 to the victim, identified only as T.W.

T.W. had initially asked for €10,000 in compensation, though it was subsequently halved as lawyers argued no permanent trauma had been caused.

The incident occurred on May 30th, 2008, between 04h30 and 05h00.

At the time Fábio Costa was aged 23; the girl 19.

She had arrived in the Algarve the day before, on holiday with her father and friends. The two had met that night in a bar in Praia da Rocha.

In court the attacker claimed he was drunk at the time of the incident, a claim the courts rejected, while the victim claimed she had not been drinking though the court decided there was enough

evidence to prove she was drunk.

She further claimed she had been grabbed and dragged to a staircase that leads to the beach, behind Praia da Rocha's tourist information point, where she was attacked, but she had been seen walking alongside her aggressor.

On the stairwell the girl was punched twice and shoved to the floor by Mr. Costa, as he attempted to rape her. The act was not consummated thanks to a bouncer from nearby disco Katedral who unwittingly interrupted the incident.

Lagos Town Hall budget slashed

Lagos Town Hall's annual budget for 2011 is expected to be around half of this year's due to a loss of revenue caused in large part by the real estate crisis.

Mayor Júlio Barroso was recently quoted as telling reporters that "the budget will be affected by austerity and set with rigour and realism in mind."

The budget for 2010 was around the €70 million mark with revenue for the year expected to be around €40 million. In 2011, the town hall's budget is expected to be between €45 and €50 million.

Other town halls across the Algarve region are also likely to see a reduced budget for next year as revenue has decreased due to the economic downturn and a lack of construction and property sales, which in turn translates into a reduction of property taxes.

All Saints Anglican Church Algarve
Presents ...
Countdown2Christmas



Saturday 6th November 2010

10.30am – 1pm

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Handmade Christmas Cards
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Christmas Café
And much more...

Christmas Fun
Bottle Tombola
Christmas Raffle
Champagne Tag
It's in the Bag
Clown's Birthday

Christmas Craft Corner
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Games Galore Corner
UNLIMITED FUN!
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The Very First Noel Christmas Movie in the Movie Tent
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www.GoodMorningAlgarve.com,
'The Best Just Got Better...'



GoodMorningAlgarve.com and 'Gecko Design Solutions' have joined forces to add yet another dimension to an already popular concept, and their new look website was launched earlier this month.

GoodMorningAlgarve.com is well established as a brilliant advertising tool for businesses, and is an unrivalled information source for visitors and residents alike.

Gecko Design Solutions have over 10 years experience in creating professional high end graphic solutions for businesses all over Europe and in the USA.

Samantha Deans of Gecko Design Solutions said: "The GoodMorningAlgarve.com website is a revolutionary concept, and one I am delighted to be involved with. We have produced a winning formula with visitors and clients by going back to what advertising is really about."

"We have complete confidence in whom we promote, so we can showcase the very best that the Algarve has to offer with integrity and responsibility."

"We are increasingly selective about our content in order to maintain our own credibility and the respect of our audience. Ours is an exciting, fresh and dynamic approach to providing information about a business to its potential clients."

"We will continue to grow and improve, and will be working hard over the winter months to increase our coverage and raise our popularity even more for the new year, and together will look forward to setting a new precedence in what we call 'dependable advertising'."

Richard Denny of GoodMorningAlgarve.com said of the new partnership, "Gecko Design Solutions have consistently created outstanding customised web pages for our clients, and we are thrilled to have them on board."

"We can now offer an almost 'three dimensional' experience to our site visitors and the very best value for money to our advertisers, who are promoted 'everywhere at once' for a fraction of the usual cost."

He added: "With 99% of clients already enjoying independent page one Google rankings after only a few weeks advertising, frequent radio and press advertising, now with the added sophistication of a professionally tailored web page, we are not just another Algarve directory, but a groundbreaking collective, and the shape of things to come."

ConceptX – A greener concept for properties in the Algarve



Established by Cristian Cocuz in 2004, ConceptX was one of the first companies to build quality steel framed properties in the Algarve.

"The idea came from a necessity to build a new type of construction, offering better quality, comfort and low cost of maintenance," said Cristian Cocuz.

Having been used as a construction method in the US since the 1900s, steel frame construction offers a wide range of advantages over normal brick buildings.

"It offers seismic stability, ambience quality and avoids damp problems" said Mr Cocuz, adding: "other advantages over the traditional system are the speed of the construction; it only takes one third of the time, with reduced quantities of waste during the construction process."

Light steel frame construction is not a prefabricated system.

The design for houses in light steel

has no limits, allowing for buildings with much larger spaces and wider spans than traditional or wooden houses.

ConceptX provide steel frame solutions for all residential and public constructions across the Algarve, but will also travel further afield for their clients.

As well as an experienced project manager with light steel frame construction training, Mr Cocuz is also licensed in electronics, enabling him to provide clients with a complete construction service from start to finish. The company also provides a warranty of five years for a house and ten years for the light steel frame structure.

In a world racing against high energy consumption, this type of construction is an excellent solution with walls, floors and roofs being very well insulated, resulting in low energy costs.

Algarve Book Cellar: A literary treasure trove



If you're looking for a great read, then look no further than the Algarve Book Cellar.

Visitors to this bright and spacious shop in the seaside town of Carvoeiro are granted a warm welcome from its owner Ray Compton, a true lover of books. The shop's Scandinavian pine shelves are brimming with more than 90,000 second hand volumes on all genres arranged in category order. There is something for everyone, whether it be crime novels, chick lit, history or travel, to name a few.

Algarve Book Cellar (ABC) also has a children's book section as well as a range of foreign literature in German, Dutch and French.

As one of the region's first 'English bookshops' ABC is now quite possi-

bly one of the largest of its genre in Portugal, something more of a 'little library' than a shop.

Since its founding in 2002, ABC has become a point of reference among foreigners in Carvoeiro, a meeting place, somewhere to enjoy a good chat and discuss the latest bestsellers and literary classic with the highly knowledgeable Ray.

Second hand books are always welcome at the shop, with Ray giving clients who bring items in a credit to spend on books in the shop.

As well as second hand books, the ABC also stocks a range of DVDs, videos, English language greeting cards, calendars and sweets, while Ray also orders new books for clients on request.

Enjoy hot water all winter with Raiz Verde's cost-cutting solutions – no sun needed!



Raiz Verde is a renewable energy company with a difference.

Using the most innovative technologies available, the company permits significant savings on conventional bills with their various energy-reducing options. Their experienced and fully-trained team is dedicated to ensuring the transition to becoming a more environmentally-friendly household is completely hassle-free.

Many people worry that solar heating will only work if the sun is out, and believe savings are only possible in summer. Raiz Verde's state-of-the-art 'Sunpack' systems defeat that belief by generating piping hot water all year round, even when the weather is gloomy and wet.

Sunpack heat pumps provide up to 80% of hot water free, based on a simple principle and an efficient way of using energy from the sun, the wind and the rain. The SunPack Heat Pump works on a thermodynamic principle and is based on the use of an evaporator panel. This panel captures the free energy which exists in direct and diffuse solar radiation, the rain and the wind. The energy is then transferred to a heat exchanger in the storage tank, heating the water inside at a cost approximately a fifth that of conventional systems.

With a power consumption of only

390W, the system can provide water at between 55°C and 60°C all year round, 24 hours per day, even on rainy days in the winter. Given that most of the energy is harnessed from nature, up to of all the hot water obtained is free, which will significantly reduce your energy bill.

Raiz Verde take pride in their knowledge, business ethics, and customer service, and will always propose options that are best suited for each specific enquiry as different homes require different methods to generate substantial energy savings.

Raiz Verde specialise in the best hot-water systems on the market and the most efficient heating solutions, providing customers with great savings on running costs. Their range of products for pools is also extremely attractive, and includes fantastic solar-gain pool covers, pool heating systems and also the Aquasmarter system, which provides chlorine-free pools.

Construction alternatives offer ingenious replacements for the largely harmful products used in normal buildings. For insulation Raiz Verde promotes natural sheep's wool, whilst hemcrete is used as a base for all constructions, an environmentally friendly alternative to concrete. The company further stocks 100% ecological paint, made from natural raw materials.

This Week's profiles:



GoodMorning Algarve

For further information on GoodMorningAlgarve.com or Gecko Design Solutions call either Richard on 934 880 930 or Samantha on 918 877 553.



Algarve Book Cellar

For more information, contact the ABC on: (+351) 282 354 310, or visit the shop on the road into Carvoeiro, among the first row of shops on the left-hand side. It is open from Tuesday - Friday, 09h30 - 17h00 and Saturday from 09h30 - 14h00.



Concept X

For more information, please telephone 916 547 761 or email danconceptx@yahoo.com. Alternatively, visit the website, available in English at www.conceptx.pt



Raiz Verde

Give Raiz Verde a call for a free quotation or for more information. Contact Raiz Verde on: (+351) 962 076 003, email: dave.armstrong@raizverdeportimao.com.pt, or see website: www.raizverdeportimao.com.pt

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Hash House Harriers kennel re-christened at Mamamaratona 2010

The Algarve's only 'kennel' of the Hash House Harriers was re-christened at the Mamamaratona on October 10th. The 'drinking club with a running problem' as it's known internationally has been scampering around the Algarve for over 20 years but has hitherto been known as the Almancil Hash. To reflect its regional appeal the Harriers voted to change the name of this particular kennel to the Algarve Hash.

Hashing, a form of blind cross-country running or walking, started in the Far East in 1938 and now has 1,700 kennels worldwide. Hashers meet once a week to follow a marked route with various false trails designed to keep the faster runners and slower walkers close together. After the run a certain amount of beer (the traditional drink of the hash) is consumed ensuring that whatever good the hashers have done to their bodies is quickly undone.

Each year the Algarve's kennel participates in the Mamamaratona run and it was decided that this would be a good time to change the name. Grand

Master, Mick Waters said, "We welcome all nationalities and all age groups for a fun session every week."

Paul Brooks, who holds the office of the Hash's 'Religious Adviser' (no one knows the origin of this title) said that both men and women of all ages participate. Some, he added, were far too mature to bother to run, so often a separate walkers' trail is included. A few hashers also bring their children, or 'hash brats', who seem to enjoy the event as much as the adults. They are, of course, barred from participating in the drinking part of the après hash.

Hash 'Songmeister', baritone Rayner Otter, said in B-flat, "The social gathering at the end of a run is accompanied with a few beers, or wine for the 'Harriers', and the occasional song or two. This is followed by 'Hash Nosh', normally a hearty but simple supper. There aren't many organisations where you can run/walk, drink and eat for five euros."

Details can be obtained by calling Sylvia 289 413854 918806044 or Mick 919518161

18th Anniversary for Valverde Bowls Club, Almancil

Valverde Bowls Club celebrated their Anniversary on 18th October with an Open Pairs Competition. Representatives of Clubs from each end of the Algarve played a most competitive game, in wonderful weather. In the one year it has been operating, Valverde Bowls Club has not had a moment to "twiddle thumbs" - along with normal bowling activities, and as the outdoor clubs in the UK close for the winter, bowls tours from the UK

arrive to enjoy the Algarve sun, and we hope they take away with them memories of a friendly and well run club.

Winners of the Anniversary Trophy were: First: Jenny and Gerry Jones; Second: Terry Kerr and Jeff Perry; Third: John Denn and Gui Gomes; Fourth: Pat and Nick Purkiss.

Picture shows Jenny and Gerry Jones receiving their prize from Valverde's Sponsor, David Hills Insurance of Almancil.



Algarve Bike Rides

Wednesday 27th

Bike Ride starting at Chillmans on the Almancil to Quarteira Road. We meet here at 5.00pm for a 5.15pm start. This will be a fairly challenging ride of around 25 km on a mixture of dirt tracks and also tarmac roads. There will be drinks and snacks afterwards at Chillmans.

Saturday 30th

Bike Ride starting in Paderne. We meet in the car park at the bottom of the hill by the football stadium at 12.45 pm for a 1pm start. This will be a fairly challenging ride on a mixture of dirt tracks and tarmac roads and there will be café stop somewhere along the way.

Sunday 31st

No Ride

Monday 1st Nov

Bike Ride starting in Lagoa. We meet by the Netto Supermarket in Lagoa at 12.45pm for a 1pm start. This will be a moderately challenging ride on a mixture of dirt tracks and tarmac roads towards Silves, where there will be a café stop, and then back to Lagoa.

For more information call Paul Beesley on 913226954 or e-mail: paul.beesley@sapo.pt or visit 'Algarve Bike Rides' on Facebook.

Algarve Senior Bikers Group Alcoutim Saturday 6th November

The next meeting will be for a ride to Alcoutim. This beautiful town stands on the Guadiana River and has superb views across the river to Spain. Meet at the Total service station on the São Brás de Alportel southern bypass at 10.00am to start the ride to Alcoutim with a coffee break in Castro Marim on the way. Lunch will be at the Restaurant Tipico in the square at Alcoutim.

After lunch the ride will continue through the hills to Barranco Velho where riders can choose their own route home by returning south back to the start point or continuing west towards Salir.

Bookings to and information from David Shirley, email davehemoto@gmail.com or phone 28244061/918421613 or check out the website at www.algarveseniorkiders.org.



The Hash House Harriers Kennel at the Mamamaratona 2010

Bowls Algarve

Mid week League

The new Mid - week League started last Wednesday, with all six teams at PDF playing two triples each, in two sets of nine ends. Albufeira played Alvor Aces and made a convincing winning start by 54-26, taking all six points. The home side PDF also had a good opening day beating Alvor Diamonds by 48-27 and by six points to nil. The third match saw Amendoeira narrowly lose to Valverde by 39-32. Valverde sweeping all the points. Albufeira, PDF and Valverde lead the table with Amendoeira, Diamonds and Aces behind them at the moment. The following matches were due to be played at Amendoeira on October 27th.

Saturday League

Week three and the Cats continue on their unbeaten way, this time racking up 82 shots to 27 at home against the unfortunate Sinners. Cats putting another eight points in the bag. Near neighbours Panthers and Tigers fought out a close match at Pedras, the home team eventually winning by 56-53 and by six points to two. Alvor

Amigos have made an encouraging start to the new season and continued this with a crushing 80-27 victory over the visiting Nuts, taking all eight points to boost them up the table. Harlequins have recovered from a shaky start and recorded a 56-38 win over stablemates the Gladiators, earning six points to two. Valverde Vulcans took on the Greens who have made an unconvincing start in defence of their title. Greens won the match 63-48, but had to be content with splitting the points four each. Valverde Vikings were also at home and beat the Crusaders by 52-42, more importantly they took all the eight points and leapt up to fourth in the table.

Cats remain out in front with 24 points with Amigos now second on 17 and Greens still in touch with 15 points. Vikings are on 14, followed by the Tigers, Harlequins and Vulcans, all tied on 12 points apiece. Panthers now have 10 points, then come Gladiators and Nuts on eight each and the two PDF teams slip to the bottom, Crusaders and Sinners both having six points.

Alan Clarke - League Director

Walking in the beautiful Algarve

Boots & Routes

Saturday November 6 - "The Rosário Island", Silves

This is an easy, level walk of about eight kilometres (2 to 2.5 hours). Bounded by two rivers - the Odolouca and the Arade - and a haven of peace and solitude, we follow an old watercourse on a comfortable foot path that squeezes along the hillside between the cliffs and the river. We see a beautiful landscape quite unlike any other in the Algarve.

After about one hour we arrive at the "Rosário" Island, the spot where both rivers meet.

The views are breathtaking! We continue to walk through orange and olive groves with the lovely scent of honeysuckle in the air. There are lots of birds and fowl to watch along the river, so bring your binoculars! We will have a rest and some refreshments at the Silves Yacht Club (ample seating and toilets available but no service this time of year) from where we can see Silves in the distance across the river.

We meet between 9:15am and 9:30am at the church car park of the International Evangelical Church of the Algarve in Vale Judeu, near Loulé (we will car pool from there). Or, if it is more convenient for you, go directly to Silves. From the Silves roundabout, take the N124 towards Monchique for about four kilometres to the car park of the "Mira-Rio" - Restaurant on your left. We will start from there around 10:15am.

As always, please bring a hat, sun cream, insect repellent, a snack, water, a smile - and a friend! Comfortable walking shoes are recommended.

This is a Breast Cancer Awareness Walk for pink ribbon - so please wear something pink (ladies as well as men!)

Hanna Singh will lead this walk; for more information, please call Hanna at: 289416078 or: 917 765 305

Let's Walk

Wednesday November 3 - from Paderne

An interesting walk through tiny hamlets and unspoilt countryside, some short climbs but nothing untoward and there are great views, about 2.5 hours no longer.

10.30am start - leave A22 at exit 9 direction Lisbon, drive up IC1 and take the first exit for Tunes, then follow the sign for Paderne. After about 5km come to a T-junction turn left then right to drive into Paderne. Drive up through the village, just after leaving Paderne you come to Cerca Velha and about 200m along there is a cafe on the

left and turning to the left to Moinho Novo - meet here.

Every one is very welcome please just come along. While these walks are suitable for all of average fitness do remember you are responsible for your own safety so wear suitable shoes, boots or trainers, bring some water and a sense of humour - as plenty of laughs are promised. There is a small charge of five euros p.p. for each walk.

If it is raining please check with Julie that the walk is going ahead, call 965 753 033.



Christmas Starts Here



Saturday 13th November
10am-2pm
Charity Shop Monte Carvoeiro
Praia do Carvoeiro

Free Hot Mulled Wine & Cookies
Christmas Goodies & Gifts
Raffle
Free Draw Ticket with every purchase
Special Offers

All proceeds to The Donkey Sanctuary




Local theatres lose a devoted friend



The late Jenny Dackombe

The **BENEF*ACTORS** theatre group is sad to announce the recent and sudden passing of Jenny Dackombe; one of our local theatre's finest members. Jenny has been an inspiration to all who knew her; a bundle of enthusiastic energy; always ready to help and work on theatrical projects; ready to learn and grow as a performer and forever ready to offer her services in any way possible.

Jenny's role as a cast member in **BENEF*ACTORS** November production of "Lights Out" helped cement a joyful relationship among the cast and production crew. She will be sorely missed by all who knew and worked with her. Our condolences are extended to all her family, friends and fellow thespians.

As a result of Jenny's passing, **BENEF*ACTORS** will postpone its productions at the Lagoa Municipal Auditorium and at the Theatre Lethes until early 2011. Both productions will be dedicated to Jenny while the objective of donating all profits to assist the Smyth family will remain. Specific dates will be announced.

Help for Heroes Success

On Thursday 21st October a special 'Fish and Chip' supper was held at the 'Cockerel Country Kitchen' restaurant in Albufeira in aid of Help for Heroes (H4H).

The organisers knew they would have a terrific meal as the food is always so good and Dave Moxon, the proprietor, has the fish flown here directly from Whitby or Inverness. The starters of Norwegian prawn cocktail or Royal game soup were mouth-watering with the meal ending with a super apple crumble!

Attendees were entertained by 'Sax and Son' as well as three wonderful belly dancers. Alan brought along his Christmas stock of cards and soft toys - proceeds of which went to H4H.

It was an honour and delight to welcome Captain Chris Hotchkiss from the 1st Battalion Royal Gurkha Rifles (based at Sir John Moore Barracks, Folkestone). He was deployed from March until recently as Overseas Mentoring Team Commander - these teams then became the current Advisor calls signs. Whilst he was based in the Nadi Ali North

area of operations he spent the majority of his time mentoring and advising an Afghan National Unit. Chris spoke to the diners briefly of the Gurkhas' experiences during this time.

There were over 55 people in attendance including Sir Owen Gee who assisted with the raffle and auction. One kind guest paid the full price for a scuba diving training session for a wounded Gurkha. Many items were received for the raffle and auction including a box of Cliff's wines with attendant personally signed photos, CD's from KissFM, Polo and T-shirts from the Royal Marines, a 'rich' cake in the logo of H4H as well as large teddy in his full combat gear.

The organisers were fortunate to make £1,236 and have sent it directly to H4H. As there were over 30 people on the waiting list for this event they will try to repeat it in February.

This is such an important charity in itself and reminds us all that this is the time of year to remember to give to the Poppy Appeal and the wonderful work undertaken by the Royal British Legion.



Capt. Chris Hotchkiss, Carole Good-Dixon, Sir Owen Gee

Countdown2Christmas

All Saints Anglican Church invite you to enjoy **Countdown2Christmas** on Saturday 6th November from 10.30am - 1pm at ASCA Community Centre in Almancil.

Yes, it is early, but once the clocks go back it's time to think about preparing for Christmas, and at All Saints Anglican Church they are doing just that - preparing for one of the very special times in the Church calendar and one of the great festive high points in family life. This year they are starting our preparations early so they can share this very special time of the year with their adopted community.

This year you are invited to join All Saints for their **Countdown2Christmas**, and get a taste of the real meaning of Christmas as well as joining in the fun, the crafting, the games, and browsing beautiful handmade gifts, and gourmet treats all made by the very talented and industrious Church Mice.

So what's in store for you?

In the marketplace you can choose from an array of handmade Christmas gifts perfect for that special person in your life, glittering festive decorations, gourmet cakes, preserves and chutneys, and luxury Christmas goodies. There are packs of Christmas cards (recycled and very green) for every taste and when you need a rest from all that shopping, stop at the Christmas Café for a good cuppa or the first mulled wine of the season.

In the Christmas fun area, there will be a bottle Tombola, a grand Christmas raffle; 'It's in the Bag' lucky dip with hosts of great prizes and a chance to win Champagne and lots more.

In the Christmas Craft Corner,

for a small entry fee, children (and their parents) can get crafty. Choose to make a princess crown, a Christmas tree hat, a Christmas tree ornament, a snow globe, or design your own guitar. Or how about making your beads for a special necklace for Mum, just some of the crafts on offer, choose any two crafts for every five euro admission ticket.

Not keen on crafts? Then head for the Games Galore corner, there's something there to entertain all ages, participation in all the games is included in the two euro admission ticket.

Last but by no means least, because it's Christmas, there will be a very special treat in the Movie Tent, the acclaimed movie "The Very First Noel" - a special live action animation, accompanying The Wise Men as they follow the star to Bethlehem. There are three showings, 10.15am, 11.00am, and 11.45am. Places are limited and admission is with a FREE ticket so come early to reserve your seat.

By the time you have done all that, bought some gifts, won a prize "In the Bag", watched the Movie, and tasted something Christmassy, you will really be looking forward to Christmas.

So go and join the **Countdown2Christmas** with All Saints, they are looking forward to seeing you.

P.S. If you have any queries or want to know how to get there, or find out more about All Saints Anglican Church in the Algarve call Rev'd Jackie 914781453 or Jo 916196077.

All proceeds from **Countdown2Christmas** are in support of All Saints Anglican Church and local Charities including ASCA.

Old Time Music Hall



Almancil International Rotary Club (AIRC) together with The Angels Theatre Group staged an "Old Time Music Hall" event in Loulé with the profits from this and a contribution from the AIRC charity fund it was possible to donate the sum of €4,000 to ASCA to assist in furnishing one of the rooms in the new accommodation block for elderly persons who can no longer for various reasons look after themselves at home. The centre caters for people from the whole of the Loulé Council area who need day care and assistance generally, and this extension will open another avenue of social care. The centre is located in Almancil and further details can be found on their website www.asca.pt.

The Angels Theatre Group

perform throughout the year at various venues in aid of charities and were pleased to be associated with this particular venture.

Seen here presenting the cheque at the meeting place of AIRC, Restaurant Couleur France are from left to right Soren Højbjerg President of AIRC, Marion Griffiths Co-Founder of the Angels Theatre Group, Uschi Kuhn Vice-Chair Events AIRC, Joy Behennah Co-Founder of The Angels Theatre Group and Hermes Alberto President of ASCA.

For further details of AIRC please see www.rotaryalmancil.org telephone 289 432286 and for details of The Angels Theatre Group and their forthcoming programmes see www.angels-theatre-group.com



Suzanne and Victor (Photo: Peter Kain)

Gin Game

Wonderful productions by the Jefferies English Theatre Company have entertained audiences across the Algarve for the last ten years. On many occasions the Company has appeared at Hotel Garbe, now re-branded as the Holiday Inn, Armação de Pêra.

The next production to launch the winter theatre season at the hotel takes place on November 24th and 25th. Entitled 'Gin Game,' it is a serious piece of theatre with many amusing twists and turns. Written by D.L. Coburn it earned a Pulitzer Prize in 1978 when it was first produced.

The poignant story, set on the porch of a run-down old people's home, reveals the relationship between two senior citizens. Absorbed in a card game of Gin Rummy that echoes their feelings about each other, the audience becomes aware of a developing bond between them.

Weller - a frustrated man with a short fuse - is played by Victor Graham. Trained at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art, Victor played seasons of Shakespeare across the British Isles, going onto variety when he appeared on the television, often as a 'straight man' in comedy shows. Later he formed his own

theatre company based at the Civic Theatre in Ayr.

Playing opposite Victor, Suzanne Jefferies takes the role of Fonsia, a newly arrived resident at the old people's home.

With an equally colourful career, Suzanne has been involved in productions at English speaking theatres across Europe and at the Donovan Maule Theatre in Nairobi, Kenya. She has also been seen on television appearing in Coronation Street and BBC 2's production of Keep the Aspidochelone Flying. She was appointed as leading actress at Ayr's Civic Theatre eventually becoming their Artistic Director with responsibility for selecting plays and casting.

Suzanne directs and appears in the forthcoming production. **Gin Game** takes place in the Raj Restaurant at the Holiday Inn (situated on the promenade at Armação de Pêra).

Wednesday 24th & Thursday 25th November 2010 at 7pm for 7.30pm

The theatre dinner includes a 3-course Indian meal with half a bottle of wine, coffee and the show for €30. To reserve a table telephone: - 282 320 260

Carolyn Kain

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All community news is welcome on this page. If you are involved in a local non-profit making project or have raised money for charity we would like to hear from you. Please send your stories to copy@theportugalnews.com

CENTRE

See Shakira with CP

Planning on going to see Shakira on November 21st at Pavilhão Atlântico, Lisbon? CP (Comboios de Portugal) - Portugal Rail Company - have arranged easier transportation for the event. There will be trains available after the show from the following locations: Lisboa-Oriente - 01:10, Santarém - 01:41, Entroncamento - 02:02, Pombal - 02:37, Coimbra-B - 03:05, Aveiro - 03:31, Espinho - 03:52, Gaia - 04:03 and Porto-Campanhã - 04:08. Call 808 208 208 for more information.



NORTH

Utter release first single

Utter, from Braga Portugal, release their first Single off their album, due out in early 2011. "Into The Light" will be released with "The Walking Dead" on this Double A "AA" side release out via AWAL (Artists Without A Label) on November 18. Already Utter have been receiving interest from press and Labels worldwide since making these tracks available to listen to in advance of the release on the 18th. To listen to the tracks now just visit: www.facebook.com/pages/UTTER

Contemporary Dance

Guimarães - Contemporary Dance of national and international production at Centro Cultural Vila Flor until December 17th - The lineup of contemporary dance includes various dances, such as 'Mallorca' and 'Landscapes ... Where Black is Colour', by Paulo Ribeiro's company. In 'Mallorca', six dancers interpret the choreography created by Paulo Ribeiro to the sound of the 24 Chopin preludes played live, by Pedro Burmester - The Centro Cultural is situated on Av. D. Afonso Henrique, nº 701. Tickets: €10 per performance.



Spirit of CHRISTMAS Fair

TWO VENUES, HUNDREDS OF GIFT IDEAS
11.00 - 17.00

December 1st: Oceano Atlântico, Portimão

December 8th: Vila Sol Hotel, Vilamoura (aquashow rd)

Bookings: algarvexmasfair@yahoo.com

Stalls: 75.00€ for one fair, 125.00€ for both

Carol Singing | Christmas gifts: Jewellery, books, toys, fashion wear, bed linen, cosmetics, decorations
Christmas food: Cakes, puddings, pies, sauces, cheeses, smoked salmon | Christmas sundries: Gift wrap, cards, crackers, tree and home decorations | Bar, snacks and restaurant service available | **ENTRANCE FREE**

In aid of the ACCA and Madrugada charities

OFFICIAL SPONSORS:

Oceano Atlântico

News

designworks!

NORTH

DANCE

Cinderella from November 6th until the 29th at Balletteatro Auditorium in Oporto. Call 225 508 918.



EXHIBITIONS

1990 - 2010 Publicações de Artistas at Museum Serralves in Oporto until November 7th. Call 226 156 500.

Warhol TV at Berardo Modern and Contemporary art museum until November 14th.

Porto Multiplos exhibition of serigraphy about Oporto at Restaurant Via Garret until November 30th.

Look Up! Natural Porto Art Show about Oporto architecture and design throughout the city of Oporto until December 19th. Visit www.lookupporto.com for more information.

Bodies Revealed at Congress Centre of Alfândega in Oporto until December 31st.

It's Not My Fault sculptures at Berardo Modern and Contemporary art museum until January 9th.

Let's Talk About Houses Berardo Modern and Contemporary art museum until January 16th January 2011.

Fragments at Berardo Modern and Contemporary art museum until January 23rd 2011.



FESTIVAL

Back to Baroque from Sunday, October 31st until November 14th at Casa da Música in Oporto with a variety of music, including: Sunday, October 31st: Orchestra Música da Câmara from 12pm. Entrance is free. Tuesday, November 2nd Ton Koopman from 7.30pm. Tickets: €20. Friday, November 5th Symphony Orchestra from 9pm. Tickets: €16. November 6th Hespèrion XXI from 6pm. Tickets: €20. November 7th Histórias de Encantas from 12pm. Tickets: €5.

MUSIC

Terrakota on Saturday, October 30th at Porto Hard Club in room 1 from 9pm. Tickets: €17.5

Fonzie on Saturday, October 30th at Porto Hard Club in room 2 from 10.30pm. Tickets: €17.5

Os Pontos Negros on Saturday, October 30th at Guimarães São Mamede artes centre from 9.30pm. Call 253 547 028.

Paula Praça on Saturday, October 30th at Guimarães Fnac from 5pm. Entrance is free.

Em Fuga with Tiago Bettencourt and Mantha on Friday, November 5th at São Mamede artes centre from 10pm.

OuTonalidades until December 18th at Estarreja Cine-Teatro in Oporto. Call 234 811 300.

Jazz Galp at Casa da Música until December 14th at Casa da Música in Oporto.

Clubbing Optimus on Friday, November 5th at Casa da Música in Oporto from 11pm. Tickets from €7.5.



NIGHTLIFE

Halloween Party at Pacha club in Espodoso on Sunday, October 31st. With live music from Nu Soul Family and many more. Entrance: €5, includes one drink.



THEATRE

A Freira Portuguesa at Teatro do Campo Alegre in Oporto until Saturday, October 30th from 9.45pm. Call 226 063 000.

Encalhadas at Teatro Villaret in Oporto until October 30th.

The Mystery of the Ghost Truck at Teatro a Barraca in Oporto until November 14th from 9pm, Sundays from 4pm.

The River Guardian at Palmilha Dentada Theatre in Oporto until December 3rd. Tickets: €10.

WORKSHOPS

Linoleum Workshop on Saturday, October 30th at 10am and 5pm at Atelier Museu Antóio Duarte in Caldas de Rainha. Call 262 839 380. Tickets from €25.



CENTRE

COMEDY

Trupe de Elite at Ferreira do Zêzere Cultural Centre on Saturday, October 30th from 9.30pm. Call 211 946 087.

Encalhadas until October 30th at teatro Villaret in Lisbon from 9.30pm.

Sex? Yes Please until November 27th at Teatro Independente in Oeiras from 9.30pm.

CHILDREN

Ben 10 on Saturday, October 30th at Lisbon's Pavilhão Atlântico from 11am and another show at 3pm. Tickets from: €18.

Mimi comes to the Library halloween event on Saturday, October 30th at Cascais library from 9.15pm. Call 214 815 471.

Lisbon Film Orchestra film soundtracks for the little ones on Saturday, November 6th from 4pm at Aula Magna in Lisbon. Tickets: €10. Call 965 653 149 211 946 087.



EXHIBITIONS

Paulo Ossião Paintings at Estoril Casino until November 2nd. Call 214 667 700.

Acreção by Samuel Rama at Galeria111 in Lisbon until November 6th. Call 217 819 907.

Urbano until November 6th at Galeria111 in Lisbon. Call 217 977 418.

Africa: See You, See Me! Until November 28th at Belém Cultural Centre. Call 218 170 828.

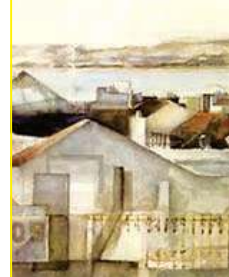
School at Gulbenkian Foundation in Lisbon until December 19th. Entrance is free.

Professores diverse exhibition by several artists at Gulbenkian foundation in Lisbon until January 2nd 2011. Entrance €4.

Let's talk about houses architectural exhibition until January 16th 2011 at Cascais Cultural Centre.

Res Publica at Gulbenkian Foundation in Lisbon until January 16th 2011. Entrance €4.

Century XXI until February 27th at Arte Centre in Oeiras. Call 914 111 400.



Paulo Ossião

MUSIC

Orchestra de Câmara Portuguesa on Saturday, October 30th at Belém Cultural Centre in Lisbon from 9pm. Tickets from €5.

Chaufeur Navarrus on Saturday, October 30th and Sunday, October 31st at Arena Lounge in Lisbon.

Jorge Moyano interprets Chopin piano recital on Saturday, October 30th at Portuguese Music Museum in Cascais from 6pm. Call 214 815 904.

Michael Bublé Nov 2nd and 3rd Pavilhão Atlântico, Lisbon, from 8pm. Tickets from €35.

Amália Gala Thursday, November 4th at Lisbon Coliseu dos Recreios from 9pm. Tickets from €20. Call 213 240 580.

Lisbon Film Orchestra musical sessions with soundtracks from well known films from Grease to Mamma Mia on Friday, November 5th and Saturday, November 6th at Aula Magna in Lisbon. Tickets from: €20. Call 213 048 841.

Rodrigo Leão & Cinema Ensemble on Friday, November 5th at Lisbon's Coliseu dos Recreios from 9.30pm. Tickets from: €15.

Patrycja Gabrel Pinheiro and Tomasz Pawlowski recital on Friday, November 5th at the Portuguese Music Museum in Cascais from 9pm. Call 214 815 904.



Michael Bublé

SPORT

Benfica V P. Ferreira on Sunday, October 31st from 8.30pm at Estádio da Luz, Lisbon.

THEATRE

Sleeping Beauty until Sunday, October 31st at Belém Cultural Centre in Lisbon from 9pm (Saturday) and 5pm (Sunday) Love...Destiny...Peace on Friday, October 29th from 6pm at Jardim da Parada, Campo de Ourique in Lisbon. Performance inspired by Fernando Pessoa's words.

Memória dos Anjos a mix of cabaret, opera and fado music at Almada Municipal theatre on Friday, October 29th and Saturday, October 30th from 9.30pm. Call 212 739 360.

I am My Own Woman until October 30th at Teatro da Comuna in Lisbon from 9.45pm. Call 217 221 770.

A Tram Called Wish until October 31st at D. Maria Lisbon national theatre from 9.30pm (Wednesday - Saturday) and 4pm on Sunday. Tickets: from €7.5 to €30.

The Elephant Man based on a true story of a disfigured Englishman John Merrick on until November 7th at D. Maria Theatre in Lisbon. Tickets: €12. Call 213 250 835.

Mind-body-brain lab on Friday, November 5th and Saturday, November 6th at Belém Cultural Centre in Lisbon from 9pm (Friday) and 7pm (Saturday).

SOUTH

BALL

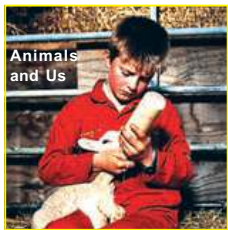
St. Andrews Society Algarve on Saturday 27th November from 7pm. Music By Sounds of Islay Ceilidh Band at Le Meridien Hotel Penina in Portimão. Tickets: €36 for members €38.50 for non members. Call Kathy on 919 635 279 for tickets.

CINEMA

Kynodontas (2009) at Tavira cine-club on Thursday, November 4th from 9.30pm
John Rabe (2009) at Tavira cine-club on Sunday, November 7th from 9.30pm

CHILDREN

Animals and Us – a day on the farm from Saturday, November 6th from 11am in Portimão, rua David Gonçalves Vieira – Aldeia Nova Boavista. Your child will know what it is like to be a farmer for an hour. November 13th – feed farm animals. On November 20th – be a vet for a day. November 27th – horse and donkey rides. Call 282 480 730.



Animals and Us

DANCE

Tango Quintet on Friday, November 5th at Lagoa Auditorium from 9.30pm. Call 282 380 434. On Saturday, November 6th at Lagos Cultural Centre from 9.30pm. Call 282 770 450.
The Here – This Time in The World...This Time in Us on Saturday, November 5th at Faro Teatro das Figuras from 9.30pm. Tickets from €10. Call 289 888 110.



Tango Quintet

EXHIBITIONS

Centenary of the Republic tapestry and drawings by Cruzeiro Seixas until Sunday, October 31st at Armazém da Arte in São Brás de Alportel.
Queens of Beauty paintings and drawings by Timo Dillner at Lagos gallery until October 30th. Call 282 687 053.
Algarve Animals Sculptures and paintings by Sylvain Bongard & Tara Esaguy Cohen Convent São José in Lagoa until October 30th. Call 282 380 434.
Trajectos by Vila at Portimão TEMPO gallery until October 30th.

Eduardo Dias Paintings at São Brás de Alportel gallery until October 30th.

We are fighting Poverty. What about you?

Photographic Exhibition at Convent São José in Lagoa until October 31st. Call 282 380 434.
Atelier Pique Show at the Lagoa art school until November 2nd. Call 282 380 462.

Stela Barreto Paintings at Chá d'Arte in Loulé until November 4th.
Ilha dos Imortais Teresa Trigoalhos and Zoran Vestigios at Convent São José in Lagoa until November 10th. Call 282 380 434.

Flowers and More by Gudrun Witt at Convent São José in Lagoa until November 10th. Call 282 380 434.

Rui André at Santo António gallery in Monchique until November 11th. Call 282 913 130.

Cork Sculptures by Dorneles and Lúcia Silva at São Brás de Alportel gallery until November 15th. Call 289 840 000.

Paintings by Ana Cassiano, Daniela Laginha and Pierre Chevron at Déjà Vu in Ferragudo gallery until November 20th. Call 912 876 646.

The Moment Paintings by Romy at Praça do Mar Art gallery in Loulé until November 21st.
Shintaro Nakaoka at São Lourenço Cultural Centre in Alcanil until December 1st. Call 289 395 475.

Golf Stream at Vilamoura Estrada de Albufeira, Aldeia Hipica until Decemebre 12th. Free entrance.

Mikki F Arab influences at Café Inglês in Silves. Call 282 442 585.

Habits and Customs of Monchique at Parque da Mina in Monchique until December 31st. Call 282 911 622.

100 Anos da 1ª Republica em Tavira at the Music Academy of Tavira. On going until December 31st. Call 281 320 500.

Ten Monumental British Sculptures Exhibition at Cerro da Vila Roman Archaeological Centre in Vilamoura until December 31st. Entrance: €5. Call 289 312 153.

Letters and Colours, Ideas and Authors of the Republic at Tavira library until December 31st.

Estados D'Alma by Eduardo Dias at São Brás de Alportel gallery until December 31st. Call 289 840 000.

City and Rural Worlds at Tavira museum and Palácio gallery until June 16th, 2011.



Centenary of the Republic

FAIRS

Annual St Martin's fair from Friday, November 5th until November 14th at fair grounds in Portimão.

Bonfire and fireworks night on Saturday, November 6th at Barlavento English school Espiche. Doors open at 6.30pm. Music by One Reason. Tombola, raffle, stalls, BBQ and much more a good family night out.

Algarve Confectionery fair from Friday, November 5th until Sunday, November 7th at Vila Real Santo António Cultural Centre.

Lagos Discoveries fair until November 14th with various festivities, including: Sunday, October 31st Caminhos dos Infante bike ride from 9am from Praça do Infante. More TBA in following edition. Call 282 771 700.

MUSIC

Jane Monheit live on Saturday, October 30th at Vilamoura Casino from 10.30pm. Tickets: €60.

A Jigsaw band on Saturday, October 30th at Portimão Municipal Theatre.

Electric Willow on October 30th at Portimão Municipal Theatre from 10pm. Free entrance.

Abba Night on Saturday, October 30th at the Acolina Hotel, Alcanil. Dinner and Dancing to the hits of ABBA. Prize for the best costume. For reservations, call 289 358 792.

El Camino flamenco nights on Saturday, October 30th from 8.30pm at Café Inglês in Silves. Call 282 442 585.

Banda Atlântica on Sunday, October 31st from 3pm at Café Inglês in Silves. Call 282 442 585.

John the Harp will bring his music and history of the harp to the Silves Cine-theatre club (in the old Silves Cinema) on Wednesday, November 3rd. Starts at 8 pm. Bar opens 7.30 pm. For more information, call 282 330 242.

Jorge Moyano concert on Friday, November 5th at Olhão Municipal Auditorium from 9.30pm. Call 289 710 170.

All That Blues Bridge Band on Friday, November 5th at TEMPO theatre in Portimão from 10pm.

Michael Jackson tribute show daily at Portimão, Loulé and Monte Gordo Casinos from 10.30pm. Call 289 310 000.

New Orleans Jazz at Casa Inglesa restaurant in Portimão every Thursday. Every Saturday at Tivoli Hotel in Lagos from 8.30pm. Call 935 086 365 or visit www.algarvejazz.com.



Jane Monheit

SPORT

Men's Basketball Supercup Benfica VS FC Porto on Monday, November 1st at Albufeira sports complex.

Bowls Crown Green and Lawn Bowls at Amendoeira. Crown Monday & Thursday, Lawn Tuesday & Friday. Start 10am. All welcome, non members €8. Call Peter Clarke 966 169 747 (Crown), Peter Moss 961 165 478 (Lawn).

TALKS

Algarve Archeological Association meeting on Tuesday, November 2nd at São Brás museum from 2.30pm. Join for lunch at a nearby restaurant. The second meeting will be held at 6.30pm at São José convent in Lagoa. Dinner at a nearby restaurant is arranged. Speaker: Sally K Church. Lecture open to all. Non members pay €5. Call 917 267 948 for more information.

THEATRE

Revue Fajem Moços que Vem a Gripe on Saturday October 30th at Praia da Rocha hotel. Call 289 310 000.

Timeless tales – But with Space! on Saturday, Friday 5th and Saturday 6th at Tavira Espaço da Corredoura from 9.30pm.

WALKS

Geology walk about the change in flowers and terrain on Saturday, October 30th from 10am to 1pm in São Brás de Alportel. Call 289 840 018 / 360 070 806.

CARBOOT SALES

Tavira on Saturday, October 30th near the municipal market.
Alcanil on Sunday, October 31st near C+S school.

Olhão Quelfes on Sunday, October 31st opposite school.
Calico in aid of the Abandoned Animals Centre, first Saturday of the month at Calico Park near Vila Nova De Caelela.
Car boot and carvery lunch every 4th Sunday of the month at the Quinta at Fonte do Bispo. For further info contact Cas on 281 952 808.

MARKETS

São Brás de Alportel on Saturday, November 30th at fairgrounds.

Portimão on Monday, November 1st at fairgrounds.

Vila do Bispo on Monday, November 1st Barão de S. Miguel.
Budens on Tuesday, November 2nd in village centre.

Albufeira on Tuesday, November 2nd at Calico.

Vila do Bispo, Raposeira on Wednesday, November 3rd opposite primary school.

Quarteira on Wednesday, November 3rd at Fonte Santa.
Loulé on Thursday, November 4th at Ameixial EN2.

Vila do Bispo on Thursday, November 4th opposite market.

Fuseta on Thursday, November 4th near camping.

São Marcos da Serra on Thursday, November 4th close to village.

Alcantarilha on Friday, November 5th in town centre.

Sagres on Friday, November 5th opposite local market.

UP AND COMING CONCERTS

NOVEMBER

PINTO FERREIRA Nov 6th Os Artistas, Faro, from 10.30pm.
DAVE DOUGLAS Nov 9th Casa da Música, Oporto from 10pm. Tickets from €25.

VAMPIRE WEEKEND Nov 10th Campo Pequeno, Lisbon, from 9pm. Tickets from €24.
RUMOURS OF FLEETWOOD MAC Nov 9th at Coliseu, Oporto from 9.30pm. Tickets from €25.

CARLOS DO CARMO & COUNT BASIE ORCHESTRA Nov 10th Pavilhão Atlântico. Tickets from €10.
INTERPOL Nov 12th Campo Pequeno, Lisbon from 9pm. Tickets from €30.

MARIZA Nov 13th at Póvoa de Varzim Casino. Tickets from €70.
Nov 25th at Oporto Coliseu from 9.30pm. Tickets from €18.

November 29th at Coliseu dos Recreios in Lisbon from 9.30pm. Tickets from €20.

MEN EATER Nov 20th at Bafo de Baco in Loulé.

SHAKIRA Nov 21st Pavilhão Atlântico, Lisbon from 9pm. Tickets from €35.

JOE SATRIANI Nov 22nd at Campo Pequeno, Lisbon from 9pm. Tickets from €25.

MACY GRAY Nov 23rd Aula Magna from 10pm. Hard Club in Oporto from 10pm. Tickets €25.

MOONSPELL Nov 23rd at Casa da Música in Oporto from 10pm. Tickets €22.50.

GOGOL BORDELLO Nov 24th Campo Pequeno, Lisbon from 9pm. Tickets from €23.

TONY CARREIRA Nov 26th & 27th Pavilhão Atlântico, Lisbon from 10pm. Tickets from €15.

LA CHANSON NOIRE November 27th at Albufeira Fnac. Free entrance. Tickets from €25.

IMOGEN HEAP November 28th at Lisbon Aula Magna from 9pm.

ALICE COOPER Nov 29th Campo Pequeno, Lisbon from 9.30pm. Tickets from €27.50.

DECEMBER

JAMES Dec 3rd at Campo Pequeno, Lisbon from 10pm. Tickets from €25.

HERBIE HANCOCK Dec 7th at Campo Pequeno, Lisbon from 9.30pm. Tickets from €22.

DEFTONES & TRICE Dec 9th Campo Pequeno, Lisbon from 8pm. Tickets from €30.

LADY GAGA Dec 10th Pavilhão Atlântico, Lisbon from 8.30pm. Tickets from €50.

30 SECONDS TO MARS Dec 16th Pavilhão Atlântico, Lisbon from 8pm. Tickets from €28.

MGMT & AMITH WESTERNS - Dec 18th Campo Pequeno, Lisbon. Tickets from €30.

FEBRUARY

SKUNK ANANSIE Feb 7th Coliseu, Oporto from 9pm. Tickets from €25. Feb 8th Coliseu dos Recreios, Lisbon from 9pm. Tickets from €29.

THE SCRIPT Feb 14th Coliseu dos Recreios, Lisbon from 9pm. Tickets from €22.

KATY PERRY Feb 20th Campo Pequeno, Lisbon from 8pm. Tickets from €25.

MARCH

KATIE MELUA Mar 13th Campo Pequeno, Lisbon from 9pm. Tickets from €25.50. Mar 14th at Oporto Coliseu from 9pm. Tickets from €30.

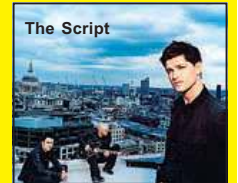
ROGER WATERS Mar 21st & 22nd Pavilhão Atlântico from 9pm. Tickets from €40.

APRIL

NAS & DAMIAN MARLEY Apr 14th Pavilhão Atlântico from 8.30pm.



Mariza



The Script

Most tickets are available at FNAC and Worten outlets across the country, ATM machines, Abreu agencies, El Corte Inglés, Casa Viola, Ticketline or at the event itself on the night.
Websites: www.pavilhaoatlantico.pt / www.ticketline.pt / www.bluelicket.pt / www.ticketline.pt
Phone numbers: Ticketline 707 234 234 / 707 780 000

HALLOWEEN PARTY

Free admission for all in costume

Live music from The Yesterdays
 Various stalls
 Food & drinks
 Witch's kitchen
 Trick or treat
 Meet the dogs
 Fancy dress prizes
 Children's play area

31st October

Starting time: 14:00h
 Entrance: 2€ Adult / 1€ Child / Contact: 916 531 689
 Location: Perimetro Florestal, N268,
 2km north of Vila do Bispo, follow signs for Haunted House
 ALL PROCEEDS TO CAPELA CARLOTA E COMPANHIA, ANIMAL PROTECTION ASSOCIATION

The opinions expressed here are those of our readers and not necessarily of The Portugal News. The editor reserves the right to edit letters or refuse publication. Send your letters, which must include your name and full postal address (even if you wish to remain anonymous on the page), and should be under 300 words, to The Portugal News, Apartado 13, 8401-901 Lagoa. E-mail address: letters@theportugalnews.com

Democracy

SIR, Mr Clare has declared his hatred of democracy, but does not say what political system he thinks better. Since he is unhappy in a democracy, perhaps he should move to a country with a different system - a dictatorship might suit him. But it would seem logical to assume that his preferred political system is oligarchy - of course with himself one of the unelected elite to rule.

SHEILA CHETTLE, Caldas da Rainha

Re John 5:24

"Whoever hears my words and believes"

Sounds to me as threat, if you don't believe you are doomed. So why do we think that the bible has the monopoly of truths?

So here is a five verse poem that may be totally wrong or a basic truth:

On the Highest Crest
Beautiful October
God has gone main-stream
Ignores the seasons
Wants to be loved by all
Before the big deluge

Lovely October
God disregard the cycles
My river is dry
While I sunbathe by its shore
And think of buying camels.

Godly October
Vacation's our new deity
Tomorrow is today
Frost and snow are banished
But Himalaya is an island

Pretty October
We fight for a place to sit
The strongest win
Design a new national flag
And build a golden temple

Scenic October

The Sea is heaven's mirror
God was a dream
No echo of man lingers
The long stillness has begun
JAN OSKAR HANSEN, by email

Massive, explained charges for Water

SIR, After reading the article about the unexplained water charges in Albufeira, hereby my experience about water charges.

On our return from Finland mid last month, I noticed by opening only the water tap for the garden hose, that the meter, which is next to this tap, was running very wild. The normally slow click was now very fast running. So I went to the Câmara in Aljezur and told the lady at the department in charge for the water about it. She promised to send soon a technician. Few days later the noise in the meter was getting scary, but that afternoon the technician came and I wanted him to hear the noise. But as usual, you bring the patient to the doctor and the pain is gone. No noise at the meter. But to be sure, the technician removed it, and checked it. Result, faulty and this meter was now rubbish. He replaced the meter and no problem. I went to Câmara and spoke again to the same lady, and she told me what I'm going to do about my water bill. Normally I pay around the €10,00 each month, but this bill was €380,00. She didn't accept that the meter was faulty, but offered to write a short letter to explain the situation to her boss.

Câmara Municipal charged me few months ago on my €9,90 water bill, €26,50 penalty, because

I came back to Portugal one day after the final payday. Therefore I activated Debito Directo from my bank. So final payday for this €380,00 was due in 3 days, and to avoid a very very hefty penalty, I agreed with this lady that I would pay the amount, this also not to upset their computer system. She promised that within a few days I would receive a refund for the overpaid amount. End of the following week, after not receiving the cheque and no phone call from Câmara, I went again to talk to the same lady. Nothing she could do, but by the end of the week she told me all would be solved and forgotten. I promised her that end of the week it is, otherwise I would solve it my way. Week went by, and nothing from Câmara, so last Tuesday I went to Câmara in Aljezur, this time to deliver my letter. Saying that I had paid the €380,00 in good faith and trust. Now I will deduct from this amount the cost of my usual use of water, €10,00. For the balance I will charge Câmara 2% interest monthly, and after this charges, I will deduct the next water bill for my normal use. The Debito Directo from my bank has been cancelled. She told me that my next account for the few weeks of water use until replacing the meter, sit tight, is nearly €800,00. So I told her that I will not pay this. Then she remembered that there was a letter in her computer from her boss. Now you don't have to be a genius, that the high water bills were because of the faulty meter, but he stated in his letter, that there is no justification that the water meter has been the problem for the high reading and therefore there will be no refund and also the next water bill has to be paid in full. So he is a genius, must be, because next to his job being the boss for the water he also is the Vice President of the Câmara Municipal in Aljezur. After 10 years living here, and having faced the builder from Aljezur, whom walked off the un-finished job as soon he was paid, the window company,

from Aljezur, for the windows who make the wrong measurements and charge double for the right ones, the company in Aljezur whom sold us the new central heating system, which after 3 weeks completely broke down and needed a total overhaul, because according to the factory it was sold to this company in Aljezur 8 years ago and therefore no guarantee, where the Câmara changed the rules for construction overnight from 400# meter to 250 # meter to be constructed on a plot, and last but not least a total building stop, because the whole of Vale da Telha has never been registered as a urbanization. So on the plot we own we cannot build anything and of course not sell it. The same is for all the empty plots in Vale da Telha. But this with the water is really the highlight of this Câmara Municipal in Aljezur.

MR. A.B., Vale da Telha

Shopping Rip-off

SIR, During the first week in October, I bought a bottle of Encostas do Tua wine from Jumbo in Cascais. I paid €9.99 for the bottle. It is an excellent wine and I am very happy with my purchase.

I now see that the wine is on special. I take advantage of Jumbo's specials as and when they appear and pay the regular price when the article is not on special.

That's how these things work and I have no problem with that.

What is of concern to me is Jumbo's dishonesty and misleading in-store marketing. The Encostas do Tua wine special is currently being promoted as follows (see my photograph below).

How can Jumbo claim that an article that it normally sells for €9.99, sells for €17.68? This is deliberate and willful misinformation and the promotion of a benefit, a cost saving to customers, that simply does not exist. Shame on you. Whatever happened to business ethics and honesty?

Furthermore, by implication, is Jumbo telling its customers that they are thought of as being stupid? Does Jumbo really expect regular shoppers not to notice what it is doing and what is going on? Somebody in the store needs to get a rocket, or better still, needs to be shown the door.

I have learnt my lesson. I will in future be extremely wary of any specials that Jumbo advertises. To me, Jumbo's catchy music promoting "take two, pay for one" and that famous 60% discount of theirs, now have a very hollow sound to them. I am left with no alternative but to conclude that Jumbo cheats!

A copy of this e-mail has been forwarded to The Portugal News. The newspaper certainly carries more weight than a single disgruntled customer.

HANS LAMER, Cascais



judicial structure that should define a modern European country.

But I digress: Ms Baden Powell refers to herself as a 'guest resident'. Wrong. She's a European living in Europe. Is that not the bottom line of the EU charter? Do the millions of Portuguese living and working all over Europe consider themselves 'guest residents'? As for the hectoring tone of the last paragraph, it's quite Hitlerian. Perhaps she should have written: 'We have ways to ensure you never print another letter like this.'

I hate this fuddy-duddy English thing where we mustn't criticize anything in case we upset our 'host' country. In my experience, if it stinks it's probably s.t. and the press needs to get it out in the open. Or are we saying that Portugal is not a democracy with the right of free speech?

KIT THACKERAY, Quinta dos Alamos

"credentials" not needed

SIR, I am glad Mrs. Baden Powell's experience of the Faro Urgência was very different from mine but I am confused as to why she should launch what is in effect a personal attack, doubting whether I had the "credentials" to report my experiences accurately.

I accept it was a busy period and never questioned the commitment of the staff, simply that they were overwhelmed.

It was clear that for many of the geriatric patients the Urgência was a repository where they would spend their final undignified days. I wonder whether the corridors were still populated with poor elderly Portuguese when she last visited - or whether she noticed.

These are the people, less fortunate than "guests" in the country such as Mrs Baden Powell and myself, who are badly let down by the Portuguese health service.

I spent my entire time in the Urgência and did not have the benefit of moving to a ward where I understand conditions are much better.

My letter was merely responding to a previous letter which painted a more benign picture of the place. Mrs. Baden Powell's plea for the facts to be suppressed is disturbing. The fresh air of publicity could hopefully lead to action being taken to bring improvements to geriatric services rather than sweeping the problem under the carpet.

I was not aware of the existence of the comments book which Mrs Baden Powell mentions but in any case I was in no condition to delay my departure to make an entry.

However judging from the failure of the management to respond even to this newspaper I am sure it would have made no difference if I had written a whole chapter.

HENRY YELF, Longparish UK

Portuguese for All

Emília Rosendo

Using **FALAR**, to say, let us look at the formation of the **Pretérito Imperfeito do Conjuntivo** (Past Subjunctive) of a regular verb in **-AR**.

FALAR is the infinitive or the name of the verb. It is made up of a stem, **FAL-** and an ending, **-AR**.

To conjugate a regular verb in **-AR** in **Pretérito Imperfeito do Conjuntivo** we need to know what endings are required.

	FAL	AR
eu	fal	asse
tu	fal	asses
ele		
ela	fal	asse
você		
nós	fal	ássemos
elas		
elas	fal	assem
vocês		

Eu *falasse*
Tu *falasses*
Ele *falasse*
Ela *falasse*
Você *falasse*
Nós *falássemos*
Eles *falassem*
Elas *falassem*
Vocês *falassem*

Pretérito Imperfeito do Conjuntivo (Past Subjunctive) is used to express a **wish** or **hope**, a **doubt**, a **possibility** in the past. It is also used with

180

THIS LESSON:
Regular verbs in **"-AR"** in
Pretérito Imperfeito do Conjuntivo.

certain words (**embora** - *although* - **antes que** - *before* - **talvez** - *maybe* - **se** - *if*).

❶ Put in the **Pretérito Imperfeito do Conjuntivo** of the verbs in brackets.

- O que acontecia se eu _____ (**faltar**) à reunião de hoje à tarde?
- O director quis que nós _____ (**acabar**) o relatório antes de quinta-feira.
- O que fazias se tu _____ (**encontrar**) uma carteira na rua?
- Ninguém acreditou que a noiva _____ (**chegar**) a horas à igreja.
- As nossas férias foram fantásticas! Foi pena que _____ (**passar**) tão depressa.
- Tu conseguias imediatamente o emprego se _____ (**falar**) bem alemão e se _____ (**trabalhar**) melhor com o computador.
- Se vocês não _____ (**regar**) as flores, elas morriam.
- Todos duvidavam que eles _____ (**emigrar**) para um país tão distante e que _____ (**deixar**) a família, a casa e os amigos.

Not a 'guest resident'

SIR, I comment on the letter written by Ms Baden Powell on the 23rd October. I'm not sure where to start because she lashes out in many diverse directions. Let me first comment on the medical conditions in Portimão Hospital, as I cannot comment on the facilities in Faro. From first-hand experience I found them to be so bad that I had to call friends to help me out of there and down to Alvor. It's not important what mistake the Spanish male nurse made that caused such agony, or the duration of the screaming match that ensued between the Doctor and the nurse. It's not relevant that in spite of enormous EU hand outs the country is still locked in the past, without the medical, educational and

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ALGARVE

SBC
FORUM ALGARVE
TEL: 289 887 212
28 OCT-3 NOV



- 1**
The Other Guys
Mark Wahlberg, Will Ferrell
(12.20 Sat & Sun) 14.45-17.10-19.45-22.10 (00.35 Fri & Sat)
- Marmaduke PV**
Owen Wilson, Lee Pace
(10.00 Sat & Sun)
- 2**
Let Me In
Kodi Smit-McPhee, Chloe Moretz
14.30-17.00-19.30-22.00 (00.30 Fri & Sat)
- Toy Story 3**
Animation PV
(10.10 Sat & Sun)
- 3**
Despicable Me
Animation PV
(10.15-12.30 Sat & Sun) 14.40-16.50-19.00-21.10 (23.30 Fri & Sat)
- 4**
The Town
Ben Affleck, Jeremy Renner
13.10-16.05-18.45-21.50 (00.30 Fri & Sat)
- Cats & Dogs 2 - PV**
Chris O'Donnell, Bette Midler
(10.50 Sat & Sun)
- 5**
Paranormal Activity 2
Sprague Grayden, Katie Featherston
13.10-15.15-17.20-19.25-21.30 (23.40 Fri & Sat)
- 6**
Eat Pray Love
Julia Roberts, Javier Bardem
(10.00-12.55 Sat & Sun) 15.50-21.00
- Charlie St. Cloud**
Zac Efron, Kim Basinger
18.45
- 7**
Life As We Know It
Josh Duhamel, Katherine Heigl
(11.00 Sat & Sun) 13.40-16.10-21.40 (00.10 Fri & Sat)
- 8**
Brothers
Jake Gyllenhaal, Natalie Portman
16.30-21.45 (00.15 Fri & Sat)
- Wall Street 2**
Michael Douglas, Shia LaBeouf
13.35-18.50
- 9**
The Last Exorcism
Patrick Fabian, Ashley Bell
21.55 (00.00 Fri & Sat)
- The Owls of Ga'Hoolie**
Animation PV
(10.20 Sat & Sun) 13.05-15.20-17.30-19.40

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28 OCT-3 NOV

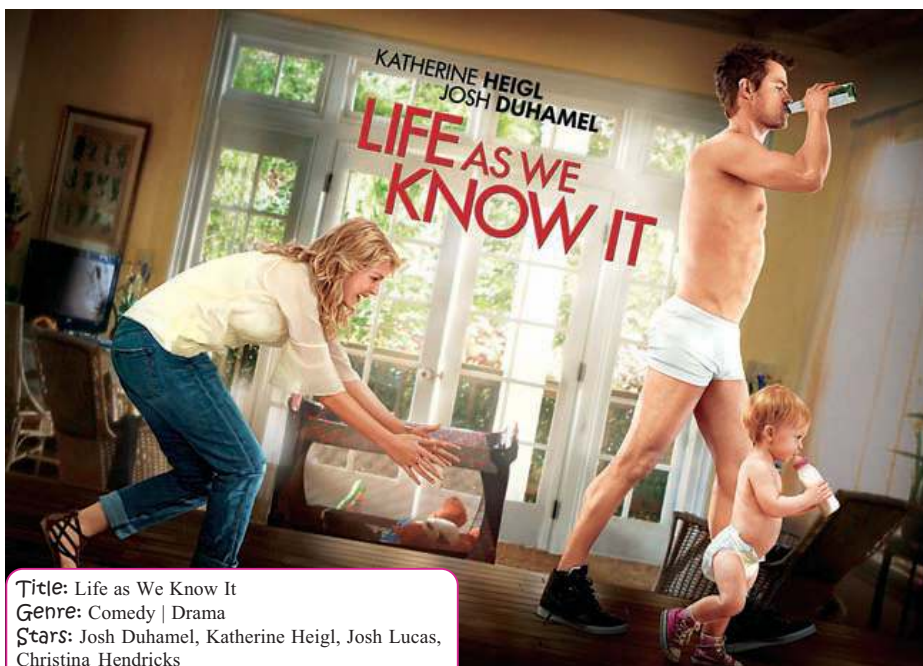


- 1**
The Other Guys
Mark Wahlberg, Will Ferrell
13.30-16.10-18.50-21.25 (23.40 Fri & Sat)
- 2**
Despicable Me 3D
Animation PV
13.00-15.10-17.20-19.25-21.40 (23.45 Fri & Sat)

- 2**
Despicable Me 3D
Animation PV
12.55-14.55-17.00-19.05-21.35 (23.45 Fri & Sat)
- 3**
Charlie St. Cloud
Zac Efron, Kim Basinger
13.20-15.50-18.10-21.00 (23.30 Fri & Sat)
- 4**
Eat Pray Love
Julia Roberts, Javier Bardem
12.45-15.30-18.20-21.15 (00.00 Fri & Sat)
- 5**
Let Me In
Kodi Smit-McPhee, Chloe Moretz
13.05-15.45-18.15-21.40
- Pandorum**
Dennis Quaid, Ben Foster
(00.15 Fri & Sat)
- 6**
The Town
Ben Affleck, Jeremy Renner
13.15-16.00-18.40-21.20 (00.05 Fri & Sat)
- 7**
Paranormal Activity 2
Sprague Grayden, Katie Featherston
13.00-15.00-17.05-19.10-21.45 (23.50 Fri & Sat)
- 8**
Life As We Know It
Josh Duhamel, Katherine Heigl
13.10-15.55-18.30-21.30 (00.10 Fri & Sat)
- 9**
Wall Street 2
Michael Douglas, Shia LaBeouf
12.50-15.40-18.25-21.10 (23.55 Fri & Sat)

CASTELLO LOPES CINEMAS
PORTIMÃO
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28 OCT-3 NOV

- 1**
Life As We Know It
Josh Duhamel, Katherine Heigl
13.20-16.00-18.40-21.30 (00.10 Fri & Sat)
- 2**
The Town
Ben Affleck, Jeremy Renner
13.30-16.10-18.45-21.20 (00.00 Fri & Sat)
- 3**
The Switch
Jennifer Aniston, Jason Bateman
13.40-16.20-19.00-22.00 (00.20 Fri & Sat)
- 4**
Eat Pray Love
Julia Roberts, Javier Bardem
12.50-15.35-18.25-21.10 (23.55 Fri & Sat)
- 5**
The Last Exorcism
Patrick Fabian, Ashley Bell
13.10-15.50-18.30-21.50 (23.50 Fri & Sat)
- 6**
Despicable Me 3D
Animation PV
13.00-15.10-17.20-19.25-21.40 (23.45 Fri & Sat)



Title: Life as We Know It

Genre: Comedy | Drama

Stars: Josh Duhamel, Katherine Heigl, Josh Lucas, Christina Hendricks

Director: Greg Berlanti

Synopsis: Holly Berenson is an up-and-coming caterer and Eric Messer is a promising network sports director. After a disastrous first date, the only thing they have in common is their dislike for each other and their love for their god-daughter, Sophie. But when they suddenly become all Sophie has in the world, Holly and Messer are forced to put their differences aside. Juggling career ambitions and competing social calendars, they'll have to find some common ground while living under one roof.



Title: Paranormal Activity 2

Genre: Horror

Stars: Sprague Grayden, Katie Featherston, Brian Bolland, Molly Ephraim, Gabriel Johnson, Micah Sloat

Director: Tod Williams

Synopsis: After experiencing what they think are a series of break-ins, a family sets up security cameras around their home, only to realize that the events unfolding before them are more sinister than they seem.



Title:
Ondine
Genre:
Drama |
Romance

Stars: Colin Farrell, Alicja Bachleda, Dervla Kirwan, Tony Curran, Stephen Rea

Director: Neil Jordan

Synopsis: A lyrical, modern fairy tale that tells the story of Syracuse, an Irish fisherman whose life is transformed when he catches a beautiful and mysterious woman in his nets. His daughter Annie comes to believe that the woman is a magical creature, while Syracuse falls helplessly in love. However like all fairy tales, enchantment and darkness go hand in hand.



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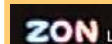
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OV = Original Version
PV = Portuguese Version

Film Classification

Life As We Know It - M/12
Paranormal Activity 2 - M/16
Ondine - M/12
Let Me In - M/12
The Other Guys - M/12
Despicable Me - M/6
The Town - M/12
Pandorum - M/12
The Last Exorcism - M/16
The Owls of Ga'Hoolie - M/6
[Rec] 2 - M/16
Charlie St. Cloud - M/12

M/4 - Four years and over
M/6 - Six years and over
M/12 - 12 years and over
M/16 - 16 years and over
M/18 - 18 years and over

HURSDAY 04/11/10

BBC1	19:00 <i>Emmerdale</i> . 19:30 <i>Adoption Crisis?</i> : Tonight. 20:00 <i>Emmerdale</i> . 21:00 <i>Emmerdale</i> . 21:30 <i>Monte Carlo or Bust</i> . 22:00 <i>ITV News</i> at 10 and Weather. 22:30 <i>ITV News</i> and Weather. 22:35 FILM <i>Rambo III</i> (1988). 23:00 <i>ITV News</i> . 00:25 <i>The Zone</i> ; <i>ITV News</i> . Headlines. 00:28 <i>The Jeremy Kyle Show</i> . 00:32 <i>Adoption Crisis?</i> . 00:35 <i>ITV Nightseries</i> .	06:00 06:00 10:00 11:00 11:00 12:15 13:30 13:30 14:15 14:15 15:05 15:05 18:30 18:30 19:00 19:30 20:00 20:00 21:00 21:00 22:25 22:25 22:20 23:30 01:00 02:00 03:00 04:00 04:30 06:00 06:00 06:30 06:30 11:30 12:30 12:30 13:00 13:45 14:15 14:15 15:45 15:45 16:30 16:30 17:15 17:15 18:00 18:30
BBC2	19:00 <i>Weather</i> . 19:30 <i>Adoption Crisis?</i> . Tonight. 20:00 <i>Emmerdale</i> . 21:00 <i>Emmerdale</i> . 21:30 <i>Monte Carlo or Bust</i> . 22:00 <i>ITV News</i> at 10 and Weather. 22:30 <i>ITV News</i> and Weather. 22:35 FILM <i>Rambo III</i> (1988). 23:00 <i>ITV News</i> . 00:25 <i>The Zone</i> ; <i>ITV News</i> . Headlines. 00:28 <i>The Jeremy Kyle Show</i> . 00:32 <i>Adoption Crisis?</i> . 00:35 <i>ITV Nightseries</i> .	06:00 06:00 10:00 11:00 11:00 12:15 13:30 13:30 14:15 14:15 15:05 15:05 18:30 18:30 19:00 19:30 20:00 20:00 21:00 21:00 22:25 22:25 22:20 23:30 01:00 02:00 03:00 04:00 04:30 06:00 06:00 06:30 06:30 11:30 12:30 12:30 13:00 13:45 14:15 14:15 15:45 15:45 16:30 16:30 17:15 17:15 18:00 18:30

[illegible]

06:00	Milkshake	06:00	White Van Man; Five News at 6
07:15	The Wright Stuff	07:15	News at 7
08:15	The World's Worst	08:15	21:00 Live & Order: Special
09:00	Goodie's	21:00	Victims Unit
10:00	The Stephen K Amos Show	22:00	CSI: Miami
11:00	Weekend Update	22:00	CSI: Crime
12:40	Five News	22:00	Cops in Crisis
13:00	Neighbours	04:00	Motorport Grand
14:00	Neighbours	04:25	Brian Sewell's Manual
14:55	Neighbours	04:55	Tour
15:15	F.M. The Memory Keeper's Daughter	05:10	Michael's Wild
17:00	Five News: Weather		
17:30	Neighbours		
18:25	Live from Studio Five		
18:50	The Home and Away		
19:30	Film: Five News Update		
20:00	White Van Man; Five News at 8		
21:00	News at 8		
21:00	Live & Order: Special		
22:00	Victims Unit		
22:00	CSI: Miami		
22:00	CSI: Crime		
22:00	Cops in Crisis		
04:00	Motorport Grand		
04:25	Brian Sewell's Manual		
04:55	Tour		
05:10	Michael's Wild		

SUDOKU

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. Answers next week.

Easy

Medium

Hard

	5			6		8	7			6	2			9	3		3			7	8	2		
	7	8				1		3					1				6			2				1
			4				9			1	9			2						9			7	
	4	5	3	1	2						5		6		3	4		7					5	
										7						9		5			1			9
				9	7	4	8	3		4	9		8		6				6					8
	3				8					4				8	5			2		6				
5		7					3	2			7						9				5			2
4	1		5				6			3	2			1	6			1	4	3				7

CODEWORD

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. Decipher the code to fill in the crossword. Three letters are already in place and the check-box and letters either side will help you keep track of progress.

(Right: Last week's solution)



Last weeks solutions:

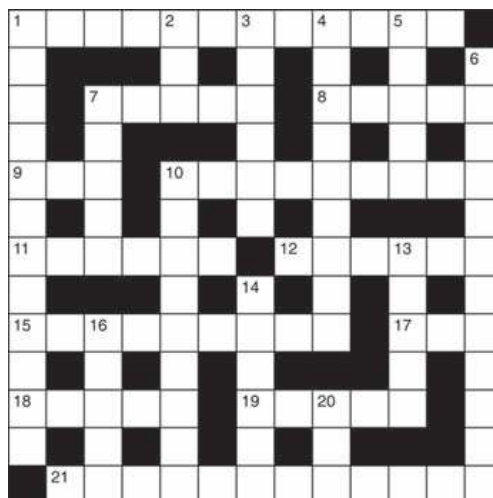
5	4	2	6	9	1	7	8	3	3	5	6	8	7	4	2	1	9	2	3	6	1	5	7	9	4	8
3	7	8	4	2	5	9	1	6	2	8	7	6	9	1	3	4	5	9	5	4	6	3	8	1	7	2
9	1	6	8	7	3	5	2	4	1	9	4	3	5	2	8	7	6	7	1	8	2	9	4	6	5	3
2	9	4	3	6	8	1	5	7	7	6	1	9	8	3	4	5	2	6	7	5	3	4	9	2	8	1
8	5	3	9	1	7	4	6	2	8	2	3	4	6	5	1	9	7	3	9	1	5	8	2	7	6	4
7	6	1	5	4	2	8	3	9	5	4	9	1	2	7	6	3	8	4	8	2	7	1	6	5	3	9
4	8	5	7	3	6	2	9	1	4	7	5	2	3	6	9	8	1	5	6	9	4	2	3	8	1	7
6	2	7	1	8	9	3	4	5	9	3	2	7	1	8	5	6	4	1	2	3	8	7	5	4	9	6
1	3	9	2	5	4	6	7	8	6	1	8	5	4	9	7	2	3	8	4	7	9	6	1	3	2	5

**This week's
Crossword
Prize
WIN**


ARCHIVE
NEWSPAPERS
The winner of the
Prize Crossword will
receive five
randomly chosen
archive editions of
The Portugal News.
Occasionally a lucky
winner will receive
an extra edition
printed on pink
paper, which is
extremely
rare!

1	2	3	N	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	H
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	E	21	22	23	24	25	26	

A	18	20	7	14	3		13	16	8	8	20	18			13	
B	17		13				22		11		16	5	20	18	1	16
C	7	24	18	17	15	9		26	16	21	20	3				4
D	13		20	24	13	16		1		20		16	21	18	17	
E	9		15	13	14	8	24	16	18	1		5				12
F	2	16	1	20	9		16		20		9	17	26	13	20	
G		10			7	11	3	21	20	3		26		2		
H	22	14	12	13	26		6		21		7	20	5	20	18	
I		1		14		23	11	17	14	3	26			3		
J	13	20	18	19	7		18		3		14	1	20	17	9	
K	16			14		5	20	3	12	20	22	11	9		14	
L	3	16	1	7		14		14		7	9	17	19		25	
M	20			24	13	16	21	20		8	20	9	16	26	17	
	7	20	23	11	20	9		24		2		15		18		
	26		7	3	17	18	20	1		13	16	7	20	1		

PRIZE CROSSWORD 1085

Five archive editions of **The Portugal News** will be sent to the sender of the first correct solution drawn next Thursday. Solutions by post to: The Portugal News Crossword N° 1085, Apt. 13, 8401-901 Lagoa, or by fax to: 707941201, or scan and e-mail to: Sherry@theportugalnews.com. (**Be sure to enclose your name, address and phone number.**)

ACROSS

- Misunderstanding (7,5)
- Strength (5)
- Exploited (3,2)
- Be in debt (3)
- Force (9)
- Oppose (6)
- Chap (6)
- Germane (9)
- Tune (3)
- Heather (5)
- Of a town (5)
- Meddling (12)

DOWN

- Map-maker (12)
- Stitch (3)
- Audacious (6)
- Chafing (9)
- Additional (5)
- Incontrovertible (12)
- Urge (5)
- Correct (9)
- Study (5)
- Snub (6)
- Rule (5)
- Rail (3)

WORDSEARCH

Find the hidden words within the square. The word may start anywhere and go in any direction.

H	J	A	E	T	D	S	A	I	N	V	S	V	E	B
O	E	R	R	N	G	E	U	R	N	C	T	R	S	R
H	O	W	H	N	O	A	G	O	I	T	R	H	Y	K
S	N	T	I	H	R	C	R	N	O	L	E	H	K	E
U	C	R	S	O	N	M	H	B	I	L	E	R	A	X
C	P	E	S	U	A	C	A	R	I	P	H	B	N	K
S	J	E	R	L	E	C	A	W	Z	S	O	L	E	V
I	Z	C	I	T	S	A	T	N	A	F	I	C	K	R
D	I	T	Y	K	A	F	I	R	M	A	M	E	N	T
F	Y	L	O	X	C	I	F	I	C	A	P	Z	F	I
H	O	B	C	I	W	F	N	G	D	B	K	U	Z	C
P	F	A	E	V	Y	T	H	L	C	Z	E	C	H	Q
S	C	F	A	P	S	A	L	C	Y	U	Z	P	Y	B
P	I	I	N	Q	S	R	E	T	A	C	L	E	F	T
E	O	F	C	A	N	T	A	N	K	E	R	O	U	S

POLYTECHNICS, CLASP, REBEL, FOE, FANTASTIC, CATERS, CERTAINLY, ERR, AROSE, ENOCH, CANTANKEROUS, PACIFIC, OCEAN, TEA, COPING, NORMALITY, CABOT, SPRINGS, CLEFT, FIRMAMENT, CZECH, INTERN, ORE

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

See if you can find 6 differences between the two photos.

**Last week's solutions**

Across: 4 Disturb; 8 Avowal; 9 Anemone; 10 Untidy; 11 Callow; 12 Encircle; 18 Mutilate; 20 Decamp; 21 Crease; 22 Villain; 23 Famous; 24 Instant.
Down: 1 Matured; 2 Contact; 3 Wander; 5 Innocent; 6 Tumble; 7 Random; 13 Campaign; 14 Paragon; 15 Release; 16 Region; 17 Varlet; 19 Inroad.

Last weeks winner: I. Franco, V. N. da Caparica



Last week's solution:

PROPERTY

A weekly guide to the latest and the best properties on the market in Portugal • The Portugal News • 30 Oct 2010

PROPERTY OF THE WEEK

Projectcasa, making your property dreams come true



This week, Property of the Week shows readers an interesting concept from Projectcasa, where steel can be used to great effect in property construction, as demonstrated by a unique project for a couple in Aljezur.

Strong, light, flexible and fast to build, steel frame has long been a standard method of construction in the USA and Australia. Introduced to the Algarve in recent years, steel frame has gained favour among those seeking a cost-efficient, adaptable and modern solution to building a home.

Bryan and his wife Lisa were having a problem getting their architect to understand exactly what they were expecting from a new house on a remarkable plot they had bought near Aljezur.

Remarkable because of the views to the east of a beautiful river valley and of the sea to the west. This difficulty however was solved when they explained their vision for what they wanted; "a ship coming down the once-navigable river to the sea."

This fired-up the architect who came up with plans featuring



sharp 'prows', different 'deck' levels and 18 porthole-type windows.

The couple had already settled on having a steel-build construction because of the well-documented thermal insulation properties it afforded. A bonus of their chosen layout was that it gave them the freedom and flexibility to have large unsupported spans throughout the house.

The huge lounge as well as terraces and overhangs of the finished property demonstrate this flexibility.

Bryan and Lisa were particularly careful in their attention to detail throughout the design and construction of their dream home. This can be seen everywhere in the property, from the wood and stainless steel outside staircases to the specially commissioned unique finishes on the kitchen units. All four double beds have surrounds in light wood with contrasting dark wood detailing and this stylish finish has been carried through to great advantage on other custom-made units.

The main architectural statement inside the house is a spiral staircase which stretches upwards through all four floors. The treads are made from an English oak, which was felled at the couple's former home in Essex, UK.

Each tread is invisibly supported by its own steel member bolted directly into the steel inside the walls. This is a highly complex and hugely attractive feature with

specially turned wood and stainless steel banisters, which could only be achieved with the use of steel.

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Ref: A1398

Price: € 175.000,00



Vilamoura

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Ref: V12324

Price: € 245.000,00



Sítio do Arneiro

Country villa composed of 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, lounge with fireplace, dining area, kitchen, laundry room and terraces. Garage. Furnished and equipped. Plot area - 12.000 sq.m. Const. area - 220 sq.m.

Ref: V12683

Price: € 435.000,00



Vilamoura

Beautiful villa composed of 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, lounge with fireplace, dining room, equipped kitchen, storage, laundry room and terraces. Garage, swimming pool and garden. Plot area - 439 sq.m.

Ref: V12684

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Ref: 1942

Price: €225.000



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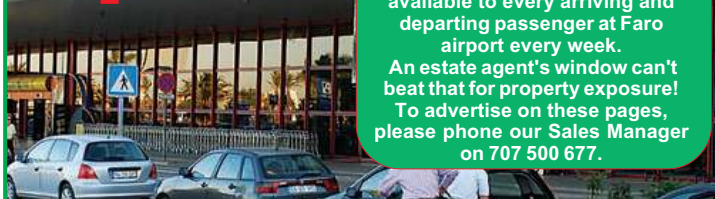
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Large Old country cottage house implanted in a land with 1.600m2 area, situated close to Moncarapacho in a calm country location. The land is level and offers some trees. Water from a well and electricity are close by.

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Add value with a patio

Top tips for with a little help from Julia Gray... laying a patio

• Most patios are located by the house, but you need to decide where you'll get most benefit from yours - if there's a sunnier spot elsewhere in the garden, you may prefer to put it there. If you want your patio to have shade and privacy, you may need to erect fencing and trellises or plant trees and shrubs, so include these at the planning stage.

• Patio paving comes in all shapes and sizes, including concrete slabs, slate, brick and stone. If you want to incorporate decorative shapes, such as stone circles, it's easiest to buy these as kits. When calculating the amount of paving required, allow for spaces of around 10mm between the slabs, and buy all the slabs at the same time to ensure colour

uniformity. Remember to get around 10% more than you need for wastage, mistakes and wear and tear.

• Draw a plan on graph paper first, marking on everything on and around the patio. Once you're happy with your plan, mark it out in the garden with string and pegs or spray paint. You then need to decide on the base for your patio - the type of soil in your garden will largely determine the type and depth of the base, as the softer the soil, the firmer the base should be.

• To prevent the patio affecting your home's damp-proof course, its surface must be at least 15cm below the course, although you can reduce this to 10cm if you put a 30cm-wide row of gravel between the patio and the house. The patio must also slope away from the house for drainage.

• When laying the patio, the first row should be at a right angle to the house and the second row should be next to it to form the length and width of the patio. Continue laying the slabs, row by row, until you've finished. The patio shouldn't be walked on for at least two days so that it can set properly. The final stage is pointing the joints, which is like grouting tiles and should stop the slabs from moving. It should also stop weeds from sprouting up and ruining your lovely new patio.



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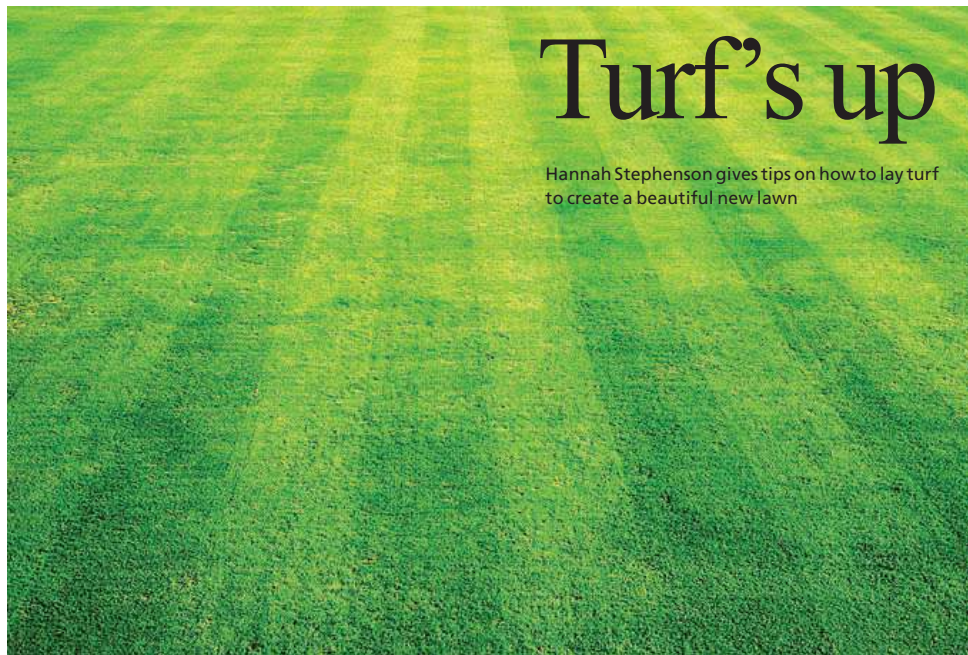
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Turf's up

Hannah Stephenson gives tips on how to lay turf to create a beautiful new lawn



If you want a beautiful new lawn but don't want to wait long to see it come to fruition, then turf's your answer.

It offers the nearest solution to an instant lawn, can be laid quickly and shouldn't need too much aftercare as long as the ground is moist and it rains within a couple of days of laying it.

Many people hire contractors to do the job for them but if you

are going to lay it yourself, the secret is in the preparation you do to the ground beforehand.

First you will need to remove weeds, improve your soil by adding organic matter, address drainage issues and level off the ground on which you are laying the turf.

You will need to dig over the site for a new lawn, breaking up compacted soil below the surface to allow free drainage when the

turf is laid. On heavy, clay soil, work some sharp grit into the soil to help drainage.

Rid the plot of stones by hand-picking them off before you firm the ground by shuffling over the area or laying a plank of wood down and walking along it, moving the plank of wood on to the next bit once you've completed one line. It's important the soil is firmed but not compacted.

It may take some time to level the area, but if you don't do this at the outset then the turf you lay may end up as a lawn with little hills in it which are difficult to mow and result in scalped areas mixed with patches of long grass. Once the grass is established, it takes a lot of work to correct any remaining lumps and bumps, so take care with the preparation first time around.

Once you've firmed the area, rake it over, leaving the ground level with a surface like fine breadcrumbs, fill any holes and make sure the ground is flat. Then keep off the area until you are ready to lay your turf.

A week or so before you lay the turf, add a general lawn fertiliser and rake it into the surface. You'll need to water the ground gently if it doesn't rain.

Make sure the ground is ready when you order your turf, as you don't want it hanging around because it will soon dry up and deteriorate. Turf arrives in Swiss-roll style lengths, which you then roll out on to your prepared area. If you can't lay it immediately, open out the rolls and lay them flat to allow air and light to reach the grass.



To lay the turf, start from the furthest edge. If there's a straight edge to the lawn, lay a row of turves along that first.

Place planks over the turf you've just laid which you can walk on while laying the next row of turves. The joints should be staggered in the same sort of pattern as a brick wall and the turves need to be butted tightly against one another without overlapping or stretching.

When the turves are laid, firm them down gently by laying a plank on top of them and tap-

ping it with a rubber mallet or the back of a rake.

When you reach the edge of a flower bed or path, lay the turf over the edge and trim it with a stout pair of scissors or an old kitchen knife, following the curves.

In October and November, the ideal time for laying turf, there's usually enough rain to help the new lawn establish, but if not, water the turf thoroughly over the next few weeks - and keep off it until it has really taken root.

Prevent cabbage problems

If your autumn cabbages have been ruined by pests and diseases, you need to take preventative action next year to stop the scourge of cabbage root fly, cabbage white caterpillars and other nuisances. Stop cabbage root flies from laying their eggs near the roots of young plants by pushing young plants through cabbage collars, small circles of flexible material, such as carpet underlay, which lie flat on the soil.

Alternatively, cover the whole bed with garden fleece or fine netting, supported on plastic hoops, securing the edges to stop the flies reaching your crop.

Cabbage white caterpillars feed hungrily on the leaves of cabbages from mid-summer onwards. Check leaves often for infestations, rubbing off the eggs and picking off the caterpillars.

If your cabbages have clubroot, which causes leaves of infected plants to turn red or purple, remove affected plants and try growing cabbages elsewhere. Lime the soil during the winter to raise the pH to 7.5 to help keep the fungus at bay. Alternatively raise all plants in pots and pot them on into larger pots containing multi-purpose compost, planting them out when they are sufficiently well developed to withstand the fungus.





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2. Don't plant small specimens into large containers, as their roots will be surrounded by too much wet compost and may rot.
3. Apply a spring application of a suitable slow-release fertiliser to encourage healthy growth.

These small deciduous trees are grown primarily for their stunning autumn leaves which turn brilliant shades of red, orange and yellow at this time of year. Female plants produce strange-looking, velvety, crimson fruits in late summer before the explosion of colour in the autumn. The most popular type is *R. typhina*, the stag's horn sumach, whose branches grow to 5m (15ft) or more if left unpruned, but be warned that it has a prolific suckering habit and tends to be invasive so is unsuitable for planting in the lawn. It looks better planted amid other shrubs such as *Cotinus coggygria* and contrasting evergreens to show its leaves off to their best. Another type, *R. typhina* 'Dissecta', has deeply cut leaflets, giving it a lighter, prettier foliage effect. It will thrive in any reasonable garden soil, in a sunny spot. It should be pruned hard in February, cutting stems to around 30cm (1ft) above ground.

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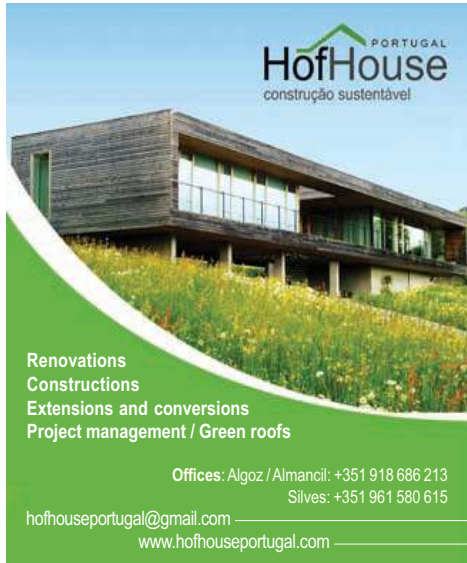
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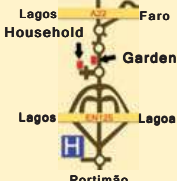
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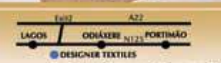
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Day of the Dead skulls

(Makes 12 cakes)

For the chocolate cupcakes:

60g unsalted butter, at room temperature

140g caster sugar

1 large egg

1/2tsp vanilla extract

115g plain flour, sifted twice

30g unsweetened cocoa

1/4tsp bicarbonate of soda

1/4tsp salt

80ml sour cream

4tbsp strong espresso, cooled

For the icing:

White fondant

Tubes of ready-coloured icing or

Icing pens

Luster dust

Rejuvenating spirit, a clear alcohol such as vodka, lemon juice, or clear vanilla extract

Flower sprinkles

Edible wafer flowers

Preheat the oven to 180C/gas 4. Line a 12-hole muffin pan with paper cases.

Using an electric mixer, cream the butter and sugar together until very light and fluffy (about 5 minutes). Add the egg and vanilla extract, and beat until thoroughly incorporated.

Combine the flour, cocoa, baking soda, and salt in a mixing bowl.

Add the dry ingredients in three parts, alternating with

the sour cream. Then slowly add the cooled coffee.

Using an ice cream scoop, spoon the batter into the paper cases, filling them three-quarters full. Bake for 15 minutes or until a toothpick inserted into the centre comes out clean.

Cool in the muffin pan for a few minutes, then transfer to a wire rack to cool completely before decorating.

Use a chocolate cupcake as the centre of each skull. Remove the paper case and cut hollows for the eye sockets.

Roll out some white fondant to a thickness of 5mm and wrap the cake so it is completely sealed. Use your hands to sculpt a skull shape; the fondant will hold in place, just be careful not to press too hard and tear it.

You can then decorate the "skull" however you wish. Look at images of other skulls for inspiration or invent your own designs. Create the main features using tubes of ready-coloured icing or icing pens. You could also use coloured icing and a piping bag with a very small tip.

To paint on further details, use luster dust in gold and other colours that has been mixed with rejuvenating spirit, clear alcohol, lemon juice, or clear vanilla extract. The liquid evaporates, leaving the powder in place.

Finish off with silver dragées (you could use small balls of coloured fondant instead), flower sprinkles, and edible wafer flowers.

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Radioactive Slime

(Makes 8 cakes)

For the lime cupcakes:

60g unsalted butter, at room temperature

Zest and juice of 1 lime

95g caster sugar

1 large egg, at room temperature

185g plain flour, sifted twice

1/2tsp baking powder

Pinch of salt

4tbsp full-fat milk

1/2tsp vanilla extract

For the avocado icing:

Flesh of 1/2 large, very ripe avocado

1 1/2tsp lemon juice

190g icing sugar, plus a little extra for sticking the fondant

For the decoration:

50g each of yellow and black fondant

Cornflour, to dust

Preheat the oven to 180C/gas 4. Line a 12-hole muffin pan with 8 paper cases. Beat the butter in a mixing bowl using an electric mixer on medium speed, then add the lime zest and juice and the sugar, and cream the mixture together until very light and fluffy (about 3-5 minutes). Add the egg, beating just to combine.

Combine the flour, baking powder, and salt in a mixing bowl. In a separate jug, add the milk to the vanilla extract.

Add the flour, baking powder, and salt in three parts, alternating with the milk and vanilla extract, and beginning and ending with the dry ingredients. Beat well after each addition.

Use an ice cream scoop to transfer the mixture into paper cases, filling each one three-quarters full. Bake for 15 minutes or until a toothpick inserted into the centre comes out clean.

Cool in the muffin pan for a few minutes, then transfer to a wire rack to cool completely before decorating.

Using an electric mixer, beat the avocado in a bowl with the lemon juice until you achieve a smooth consistency, beating out all the lumps. Slowly blend in the sugar, increasing the speed of the mixer as you go. Add more sugar, if needed, to achieve a consistency and taste that you like. Fit a piping bag with a number 10 tip and fill with the icing. Make an incision in the top of each cake and pipe the icing into the centre, filling it up. Slowly lift the tip out of the centre of the cake and frost the top.

Roll out the fondant, ideally using a silicone rolling pin and mat, or dust the work surfaces and the rolling pin with cornflour to prevent the fondant icing from sticking (this can then be gently wiped away with kitchen paper when you are finished). Cut eight radioactive symbols from yellow and black fondant and stick them together with a little icing sugar mixed into water. Place on top of the avocado icing.

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Frightening food



As the witching hour approaches ace baker Lily Vanilli offers up some ghoulish cupcakes. She reveals the secret to Sarah O'Meara about making devilish cake designs such as Day of the Dead skulls, Radioactive Slime and Eerie Eyeballs.

As you plan your Halloween party this year, bake your cupcakes with wicked glee. Turn these girly treats into devilish desserts, by following the lead of cook Lily Vanilli, who's just

published her new book: *A Zombie Ate My Cupcake!* Follow her instructions, and whip up some terrifyingly tasty cakes for trick or treaters this year.

Eerie Eyeballs

(Makes 12 cakes)

For the red velvet cakes:

60g unsalted butter, at room temperature
140g caster sugar
1 large egg, at room temperature
1/2tsp vanilla extract
4tbsp red food colouring
Pinch of salt
30g cocoa
225g plain flour, sifted twice
120ml buttermilk
1/2tsp cider vinegar
1/2tsp bicarbonate of soda
For the vanilla icing:
60g unsalted butter, at room temperature
4tbsp full-fat milk
1tsp vanilla extract
360g icing sugar
2tbsp double cream



For the eyeballs:

250ml canned coconut milk
125g granulated sugar
5 sheets leaf gelatine
Blue and black food colouring

For the worms:

Marzipan
Copper food colouring
Preheat the oven to 180C/gas 4. Line a 12-hole muffin pan with paper cases. Using an electric mixer, beat the butter and sugar together in a bowl until very light (about 5 minutes).

Beat the egg until well incorporated. In a small separate bowl, beat the vanilla extract, colouring, salt, and cocoa into a thick paste. Beat into the butter mixture.

With the mixer running on a slow speed, add the flour to the mixture in three parts, alternating with the buttermilk

and beginning and ending with the flour.

Stir the vinegar into the baking soda, add to the batter, and fold in using a spatula. Leave to stand for 3 minutes.

Using an ice cream scoop, spoon the batter into the paper cases, filling them three-quarters full. Bake for 15 minutes or until a toothpick inserted into the centre comes out clean.

Cool in the pan for a few minutes, then transfer to a wire rack to cool completely before decorating.

Using an electric mixer, beat the softened butter in a bowl until smooth. Add the milk, vanilla extract, two-thirds of the sugar, and the double cream, and blend until smooth.

Slowly add the remaining sugar, beating constantly until smooth.

To make the "eyeballs", heat the coconut milk and sugar in a saucepan over a medium heat until hot but not boiling. Remove from the heat and cover to keep

warm. Soak the leaf gelatine in 180ml cold water until soft (about 5 minutes). Add the sheets and the water to the warm coconut milk and stir well. Remove from the heat, then set aside to cool. Pour the coconut mixture into eyeball-shaped molds. Refrigerate for 4 hours or until set, then carefully ease the round jellies from the mold onto a plate. Using a paintbrush, decorate the "eyeballs" using blue and black food colouring.

To make the "worms" colour some marzipan with copper food colouring, then roll into worm shapes and use a knife or scalpel to carve a few details.

Spread the vanilla icing over the top of the cupcakes, then add the "eyeballs" and "worms" - about three per cake of each. These cupcakes are best eaten with a spoon, and this recipe should make about 45 eyeballs.



A Zombie Ate My Cupcake! by Lily Vanilli is published in hardback by Cico Books. For more information visit www.cicobooks.co.uk.

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Geyser erupting with a volcano in background, Chile

Don't rescue me from this Chilean adventure

The rugged mountain slopes of Chile are a treat for climbers and a pretty testing challenge for skiers too, discovers Alistair Keely.

While images of Chilean miners returning from deep in the earth have been beamed around the world, today I'm as far from those pictures as it's possible to get.

Standing at the summit of Toco volcano, 5,625 metres above sea level, images of famous climbers Sir Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay race through my mind, and while Toco is no Everest (8,848 metres), I do feel I've just climbed the highest mountain in the world.

Despite the elation, my head is pounding and my lungs scream for oxygen. On high altitude hiking in Chile, the oxygen-depleted atmosphere makes you feel you have the worst hangover ever, combined with a touch of flu.

Why go through such an ordeal? All around me is the answer: breathtaking views of the Bolivian Altiplano, Argentina and the Atacama salt flats. Now I know how great climbers feel as they stand on top of the world.

Toco, one of the highest peaks of northern Chile, is also one of the most accessible. You don't need to be related to Sir Edmund to conquer this peak, just reasonably fit and prepared for a bit of discomfort.



A flamingo seen at Salar de Atacama

However, I have a confession to make: the hike up Toco was eased by the fact we were driven to 5,000 metres before we began hiking.

After a slow descent, and celebratory beer and sandwiches in the van, we returned to base camp - the sumptuous Tierra Atacama hotel.

On the edge of San Pedro de Atacama, a picturesque oasis village in the high plains of northern Chile, the hotel calls itself "an adventure spa". Here guests can combine the active enjoyment of the desert - without sacrificing their pampering time.

Built to blend with its surroundings, the hotel is made of local materials and each room has stunning views: every morning I opened my curtains to see two smouldering volcanoes.

Every room is en suite and comes with a luxurious four-poster bed, sunbathing terrace and even an outdoor shower. And after you've chilled out, it's time to sit and enjoy Chile's national

drink - a pisco sour - beside an open fire, and plan next day's activities, or indulge yourself with a spa treatment.

The hike up the volcano is one of many options from the hotel. Other adventures include biking through Devil's Canyon, visiting dramatic geysers and 900-year-old cacti, horse riding, hiking through Death Valley and birdwatching.

After my Toco adventure I opted for a hike through Death Valley to see flamingos feeding at sunset.

Death Valley was named by a Belgium explorer after the planet Mars. Instead of calling it Valle de Martes, he badly pronounced it and called it Valle de la Muerte - meaning death, and the name stuck.

The name is fairly appropriate, however. Little life is visible as you walk through a moon-like valley with spectacular twisted rock formations and sand dunes.

The flamingo trip to the Salar de Atacama was also memorable.

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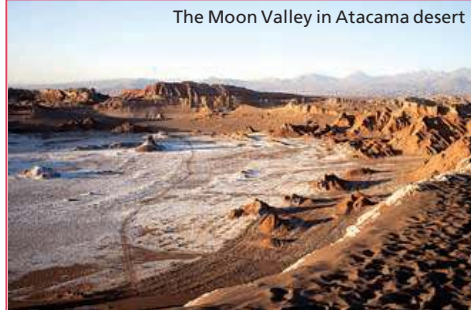
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Flamingos seen at Salar de Atacama



The Moon Valley in Atacama desert



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A church on the Atacama desert

Leaving the hotel by van at 3.30pm, we went south, via the village of Toconao, famous for its fruit trees and historic bell tower, before heading to the salt flats.

Here flamingos feed on the tiny pink shrimps which give them their colour. As the sun sets, the region is bathed in a fantastic purple light as birds gather in large numbers.

The soft gurgle of running water intermingles with cries from the birds. Every so often a group of flamingos rise into the air to seek another lake to feed in, against the dramatic backdrop of surrounding volcanoes and the setting sun.

This whole region features very unusual geography. The Atacama desert is the driest in the world. It

has little or no rainfall for dozens of years and, beyond the narrow strip of land between the sea and the Andes, the desert itself stretches on for thousands of miles into the Pacific.

It creates a unique environment. The weather is mostly fine, with little moisture from the ocean into the sky, and little or no cloud formation.

Hence days and days of endless, cloudless, blue skies, though I was travelling in Chile's winter months. Daytime temperatures hit the mid-20s, but night temperatures can drop below freezing.

Leaving the desert behind again, I headed for the mountains. Damage caused by the recent earth-

quake in Chile was still evident on the two-and-a-half hour drive from Santiago, with repairs on bridges and roads causing jams around diversions.

The quake was even felt high in the Andes, with a small amount of cracking to buildings but no lasting damage to infrastructure at Portillo, one of Chile's top ski resorts.

Skiing in Chile is still in its infancy compared to Europe and North America, with a handful of small resorts. Facilities at Portillo are modest, but even so the Austrian ski team were at Ski Portillo, known as the Spirit of the Andes, and using it as a training base.

But what Portillo lacks in size and facilities it makes up for in



Walking in the Atacama desert.



The Atacama desert.

Key facts - Chile

- :: Best for: Adventure holidays.
- :: Time to go: You ski in Chile during the British summer months, while the Atacama desert can be visited at any time.
- :: Don't miss: Flamingos feeding at sunset.
- :: Need to know: It's very cold in the desert at night.
- :: Don't forget: Take Chilean pesos, because there are few cashpoints.

Travel facts

Alistair Keely stayed at Tierra Atacama where seven nights' full board in a double room costs from £1,807 (€2,030) including transfers, breakfast, lunch and dinner, open bar, daily excursions daily with other guests, use of pools and sauna. Details from reservas@tierraatacama.com.

At Ski Portillo, seven nights in a family apartment (two bathrooms) costs from £1,388 (€1,560) including four meals daily, lift pass, fitness/entertainment facilities. Visit www.skiportillo.com.

Alistair flew Heathrow-Madrid with Iberia, and Madrid-Santiago with LAN. Visit www.LAN.com and www.Iberia.com.

Journey Latin America's nine-day tailor-made package to Atacama desert, Santiago and Portillo ski resort costs from £2,575 (€2,894), including return flights via Madrid, domestic flights, three nights at hotel Tierra Atacama, breakfasts daily and full board in Atacama desert, excursions in Atacama and transfers. Journey Latin America reservations: www.journeylatinamerica.co.uk.

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Beat the winter blues

As it gets dark earlier and the weather gets colder, an estimated five million people in the UK will start suffering with Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD), a form of winter depression. Lisa Salmon asks the experts what the condition is, and how those who suffer from it can beat the winter blues.

Increasingly long, dark nights as winter approaches leave few people jumping for joy.

But for as many as three million people in the UK, the longer hours of darkness bring true misery, triggering the form of winter depression known as Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD).

The condition is thought to affect around six per cent of people in this country between the months of September and April.

Not surprisingly, it's much more common in the northern hemisphere, where winter days are shorter and gloomier.

It gets worse in susceptible people when the clocks go back at the end of October, and peaks during December, January and February.

Symptoms, which are most likely to become apparent between the ages of 18-30, include depression, being fewer active, putting on weight and sleeping more.

The main difference between SAD, which is much more common in women, and other types of depression is that sufferers are only affected in the winter months.

Consultant psychiatrist Professor Anne Farmer, who runs the National Affective Disorders Unit at London's Maudsley Hospital, says that while many people feel the change in the season, some have a marked clinical

pattern which may eventually be diagnosed as SAD.

"They'll feel worse in the winter, and start feeling much better in the spring," she explains.

Research suggests that SAD is caused by change in light, and this may be linked to the body's production of the hormone melatonin, in the brain's pineal gland.

The more light there is, the less melatonin is produced. So in winter, when there are less daylight hours, the pineal gland produces much more melatonin.

Consultant psychiatrist
Professor Anne
Farmer, who runs
the National
Affective Disorders
Unit at London's
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Suffering from depression in winter

Levels of melatonin, which is thought to help regulate the body's wake/sleep cycle, fluctuate throughout the day. They rise as we get sleepy in the evening, and peak when we're asleep in the middle of the night.

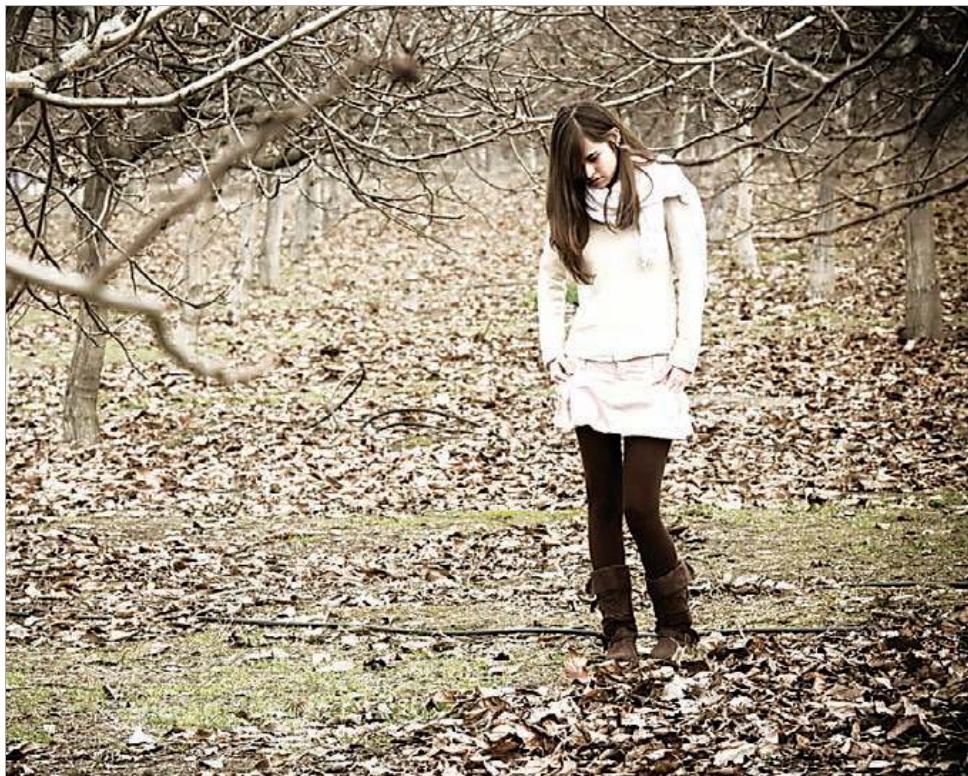
"A lot of research has been done and is ongoing, but we still don't really understand what Seasonal Affective Disorder is, or why light treatment, which is of-

ten used to treat it, works," Farmer admits.

"It may be that what happens is the lack of light causes a disruption in people's wake/sleep cycle, and this needs to be shifted back."

Treating SAD

Light therapy, which is one of the primary treatments for SAD, involves sufferers positioning



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Other treatments include talking therapies such as cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT), or anti-depressants.

"If you use light treatment early in the morning, it seems to advance phase the sleeping/waking cycle," explains Farmer. "Light treatment causes melatonin levels to drop, so those who use a light box in the morning are waking themselves up."

"How that fits into depression, no one can really explain."

There may be a link with other hormones including serotonin, which is known as the 'feel-good' hormone because of its mood-enhancing properties.

The production of serotonin is helped by light, so it's likely that a person will have lower levels of serotonin during the winter when the days are shorter.

"We know that serotonin is deficient in the brain when people are depressed, so possibly there's a link between mela-

tonin and serotonin, and that's why light treatment seems to have this indirect effect on lifting mood in people who are affected by the lack of daylight," says Farmer.

For many people SAD is a seriously disabling illness, preventing them from functioning normally without treatment.

For others, it's mild but debilitating, causing discomfort but much less severe symptoms than those suffered by people with full-blown SAD.

The less severe form is called subsyndromal SAD, which may affect up to 17 per cent of the UK population.

Subsyndromal SAD may not need treatment like light therapy, which can be used daily in winter by SAD sufferers, starting just before the first symptoms might be expected to appear.

Symptoms usually improve within a few days of starting the treatment, which may be available in NHS outpatient hospital clinics.

Light boxes for home use usu-

ally have to be bought or hired privately.

"The effect of light treatment isn't huge," says Farmer. "It's to keep you well, rather than to lift you once you're in depression."

"My advice is to start using your light box before you get severely depressed - so people need to start using it around now."

"If it's effective for you, it'll stop you getting really depressed."

Most people find they need to use the boxes for at least an hour in the morning, and some use it in the evening as well.

Research shows the light has to be much stronger than the average strip light, and white light is best.

Light boxes tend to be about 10,000 lux. Lux is a measure of the intensity of the light - the light outside on a bright summer's day is about 250,000 lux.

So while 10,000 lux doesn't sound that bright, it's actually a lot stronger than most domestic

lighting.

To be officially diagnosed with SAD, sufferers need to have noticed the symptoms for at least three winters.

But people may retrospectively say they've had it for many winters if they realise there's been a seasonal pattern to their symptoms.

"Some people have to take time off work and hide away from the world, and if they're doing that, they need to see their GP," advises Farmer, who says initial treatment may be anti-depressants or CBT.

However, there are things sufferers can do to help themselves. "Maximise your exposure to daylight through the winter - natural daylight, even with cloud cover, is much better than a light box."

"Try and have an exercise routine, and have a winter holiday somewhere where there's more natural daylight."

"And my last, rather drastic, piece of advice is if you can't do any of that, then emigrate!"

SAD symptoms

Seasonal Affective Disorder sufferers may experience the following symptoms:

- Depression
- Lack of energy
- Loss of libido
- Over-eating
- Sleeping a lot
- Tiredness, heavy limbs, aching muscles or headaches
- Stomach problems, sweating, cramps, frequent urination
- Dry mouth, heart palpitations, hyperventilating
- Fidgety, restless, hard to concentrate
- Paranoid and suspicious



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Name: PONGA; age c.: 6 years; sex: Female; breed: Cross breed short haired; colour: Brown/white patches. Ponga is spayed. Vaccinated until May 2011. She is a lovely dog who has lots of energy and likes to play. Tel: 282 471347 or 91 4767958 or e mail pixley@sapo.pt



Name: BILLY; Age circa: 5 years; Sex: Male; Breed: German Shepherd cross. Characteristics: Billy is castrated. Vaccinated until August 2011. Microchipped. EC & English passport. He is a lovely dog with lots of energy and likes to play. Tel: 282 471347 or 91 4767958 or e mail pixley@sapo.pt



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A happy ending story



Animal rescue situations also occur in the Algarve. In this case, a dog was found trapped in a street water pipe and was rescued in São Romão (municipality of São Brás de Alportel).

The rescue took place on Sunday, 10th October, after the dog had been trapped for two days. The animal was hit by a car, it was raining heavily, and the dog took refuge on the side of the road inside a water pipe. On Saturday morning, several people spotted the dog and, with the help of a camera, they tried to photograph its position. In the afternoon there was a rescue attempt, but it seemed that the dog was no longer there and that it had probably escaped by itself. But the next day people were again attracted to the spot by other dogs that were exhibiting unusual behaviour near the pipe, as if signaling for help. Through another attempt to find out if the dog was still there they again inserted the camera in the pipe and took a

photograph. It was concluded that the dog was still trapped inside and in distress. With the help of firefighters and an excavator belonging to the Town Hall, it was possible to rescue the dog by tearing up the sidewalk to reach the pipe which was partially broken to gain access and a loop was made on a rope to catch the dog and pull the animal to safety. The 'Want to Give' initiative of the Friends of Animals Association participated in the rescue. The dog was referred to the Canham Veterinary Clinic in Alancil where she (it was a female) was examined and the doctor said the dog had a broken hip. The Association awaits her recovery for subsequent adoption.



A worker after rescuing the dog from the pipe.



A photograph taken inside the pipe to spot the dog.

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- * If it just looks like mine, it is.
- * If I saw it first, it's mine.
- * If it's edible, it's mine.
- * If you have something and put it down, it's mine.
- * If I chew something up, all the pieces are mine.
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Trick or treating with an adult.



Trick or treat?

While some mums and dads might believe little monsters and witches live in their house all year round, they'll be especially visible at Halloween. Lisa Salmon looks at the weird, wonderful and sometimes weary world of family life.

The American tradition of dressing up to trick or treat is more popular than ever in the UK, and growing even over here, and whatever the weather young kids want to go out in the dark dressed as ghosts and witches to claim their sweet trick or treat spoils from neighbours.

But while it's great fun for the kids, trick or treating in the dark can lead to dangers far more real than any werewolf or vampire.

For that reason, the Halloween Association, helped by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) has produced a series of tips aimed at keeping children safe at Halloween.

The guidelines suggest the best way to celebrate Halloween is at a home-based party. But for the many who still want to trick or treat, the aim is to keep kids safe while they have fun.

Duncan Vernon, a road safety manager at RoSPA, points out that this year, Halloween falls on the day the clocks go back, so trick or treaters need to remember it'll get dark earlier.

He says: "We encourage families who'll be out trick or treating on Halloween to think about road safety so that they enjoy the occasion and stay safe at the same time."

"Remember to make sure you can be seen easily by drivers and motorcyclists."

He emphasises that trick or treaters should carry a torch - which can sometimes be held under their chin for a scary look - and should ensure costumes have reflective tape or strips on them.

"We encourage parents to ensure their children are well supervised when trick or treating," he says, "and remind everyone not to forget the road safety basics in the middle of the excitement - like stopping and looking before crossing the road."

Some parents embrace Halloween, and others try to avoid it. Parents who use the social networking site Mumsnet have mixed



The guidelines suggest trick or treaters should:

- Always have adequate adult supervision, and never trick or treat alone. The Halloween Association suggests one adult for every three children.
- Plan a local route and stick to it, walking on the pavement and only crossing the road at well-lit, safe places, with young children holding an adult's hand near roads.
- Always carry a torch so you can be seen in the dark.
- Wear costumes that are flame-retardant, and large enough to wear warm clothes underneath. Incorporate reflective material on the costume to make the wearer more visible in the dark.
- Avoid wearing masks while walking from house to house. If masks or hoods obstruct a child's vision, use face paints instead.
- Don't carry weapons or other props - it could intimidate householders.
- Don't cut across lawns or parks as there may be hidden objects.
- Only visit houses with Halloween decorations such as a carved pumpkin in the window - not everyone welcomes trick or treaters.
- Don't enter homes of strangers - only accept treats in the doorway.
- Ask an adult to check the treats before eating them.

views.

Justine Roberts, Mumsnet's co-founder, says: "Mumsnetters are pretty much split down the middle on whether Halloween's a colourful diversion which is great for family fun, or an American-inspired abomination that's to be

avoided at all costs."

The Mumsnetters who love Halloween suggest trick or treating on roads leading to primary schools for the best results, and always buying far too many sweets so there's lots left for mum and dad to eat.

And a fun idea is to fill a hollowed-out pumpkin with jelly, leave it to set until it's gloopy, and then add lollipops. Tell trick or treaters to root inside the pumpkin brains for their treats. But there will always be people - with or without children - who don't enjoy the Halloween tomfoolery.

The anti-Halloweeners who use Mumsnet say they shut the curtains, turn off the lights and pretend they're out, or even meanly put a basket out with a sign on it saying, "We've gone out but do help yourselves to these" - but leave the basket empty.

Roberts adds: "Our advice is that whatever you do, don't do it half-heartedly."

"Either go for it and embrace the costumes, pumpkin carving and crunchy bars or flee to the country where there's fewer trick or treaters about."

"Or even leave the country - as long as you don't go to the USA."

Information: www.halloween.org.uk

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Feed your face

Nutrition is never far from the headlines. From getting your 'five a day' fix to sinking two litres of water, there are enough must-follow commandments to create the nutritional equivalent of the Bible.

While the growing array of superfoods and supplements may help give your skin a boost, it's your daily diet that makes the biggest difference to your overall complexion.

Yep, the foods you throw into your supermarket trolley really can have an effect in the fight against wrinkles, make your hair glossy, and encourage an elusive supermodel glow.

"Diet is the most important factor to health as it not only impacts on our weight and internal organ function, but also our mental health, all of which are reflected in our skin condition," explains Simple's nutritionist Fiona Hunter, who's behind the SkinTriton initiative to promote the link between healthy diet and beauty.

So put the so-called wonder products on the back burner and look to your larder to give your skin the Michelin-starred treatment.

Diet dramas

Fast food and sweet treats may be moreish but too much of a good thing can result in telltale signs that your diet has taken a nosedive.

Premature ageing of the skin can be related to an excess of sugar and refined foods.

Fiona says: "Poor diet can result in poor skin health, which shows itself through dull, flaky skin and dark circles under the

eyes, as well as spot breakouts."

Similarly, if you're glugging more Manhattans and Martinis than H2O cocktails, your skin could be heading for trouble.

Dehydrated skin lacking in water can quickly look wrinkled and drawn. And it doesn't matter what your skin type is, both dry and oily skin can suffer badly from the dehydration blues.

Sip regularly on fluids throughout the day and treat your skin to SOS hydrating products containing replenishing ingredients such as super-moisturising Sodium Hyaluronate and Glycerin, a natural humectant.

Skin savers

Beautify from the inside out. There's no need for complex recipe cards, just sensible eating incorporating specific beauty-boosting foods.

"There are many foods that, if eaten regularly as part of an overall well-balanced diet, will benefit the skin, however some foods are better than others and focusing on these will provide the extra nutrients required to boost your skin's health and give you a great complexion," Fiona says.

Aid the angelic eating process with beauty's equivalent of an after dinner mint: vitamin-packed products to nourish the skin.

Gorge on veg

Eating plenty of vegetables can help you stay feeling and looking healthy.

"Bright orange, red and green-coloured vegetables replenish the nutrients in your body," Fiona

Lisa Haynes advises what you put in your body is just as important as what you put on it. Boost your skin with the foods that work beauty wonders.

explains. Try including tomatoes, carrots, sweet potatoes and broccoli in your diet."

Eat more fish

"Eating fish is a tasty way to have a light, healthy meal with the added benefit of Omega-3 fatty acids," Fiona reveals.

"Try adding some salmon, trout, tuna, mackerel, sardines or herrings into your diet."

Brew a cuppa

"Sit down and have a nice cup of tea," Fiona suggests. "It will help to keep you hydrated and count towards your eight glasses of water a day."



The Body Shop Vitamin C range, (www.thebodyshop.co.uk).

Feast on fruit

"Vitamin C is very good for us. Try and eat citrus fruits such as oranges, lemons, limes and grapefruit each day. This can be as easy as having a grapefruit for breakfast, or drinking a glass of orange juice alongside your cornflakes," Fiona suggests.



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Lisbon

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THE DOOR Christian Int. Church. Church Desportiva, Praceta Carlos Capitão, Loja "B" Massama / Queluz, Sunday 10:30am & 7:00pm. Pastor Frank Escobar at 21-467-3386 or Mobile 919 086 683

ST GEORGE'S CHURCH; LISBON (Church of England). Av. S. Jorge 6 (north of Estrela Gardens). Service 11.45 am every Sunday. Tel: 21.4692303.

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, ESTORIL (Church of England). Av. Bombeiros Voluntários 59 (behind Hotel Sana Estoril). Sunday School. Service 10.00 am every Sunday. Tel: 21.4692303.

ST. MARY'S, S. PEDRO DO ESTORIL 368 Rua do Murtal, Mass each Sunday and Holiday 10.15am Tel. 21 467 3771

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND (PRESBYTERIAN) Rua Ariaga, 13, Lisbon: Sun. 11.00. Bi-lingual Sunday school & crèche is available. Minister's Tel: 218 043 410, www.standrewslisbon.com

CASCAIS INT. CHRISTIAN CHURCH Av. de Sintra, Nº 1154, Cascais (Tel: 21 486 1856). Sunday English worship 10.30. An int. evangelical fellowship, nursery provided, children's church programme, mid-week bible studies.

THE SALVATION ARMY, LISBON Reboloira Corps (Praceta Almada Negreiro, Lote 213 Loja Dt do Exército 11 A); Chelas Corps (Rua Rui de Sousa, Lote 65 A Loja C); Laranjeiras Corps (Bairro de

Laranjeiras). At all these corps: Morning 9.30am Salvation Meeting 5.00pm Picheleira Corp Rua Capitão Roby, Picheleira, Lisbon (21 805708).

LISBON SYNAGOGUE: Rua Alexandre Herculano 59, Tel 213 931 130 Fax 213 884 304, celesboa@mail.telepac.pt
IGREJA BAPTISTA de Queijas (close to Cascais) Rua Carlos Santos 88, Queijas near the Olympic Stadium off the A5. Tel: 214 172 087. Sunday Service: English 10:15 Prayer and Bible Study: Thursday 8pm Traditional Baptist Service in English followed by Sunday School.

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES - Public Talk in English. Rua João de Deus, 76, Sintra. (Behind Sintra train station). Sunday 1.30pm. Tel: 214 690 600. Also Rua da Barroca, 122 (Bairro Alto), Lisbon. Sunday 11am. Tel: 213 421 604. (Chinese: Saturday 3pm).

The Algarve

ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN CHURCH, ALGARVE Holy Communion every Sunday. Almancil 10.30am with Adventurers at Almancil Community Centre (ASCA). Lagoa 6pm at Lagoa Convent Chapel. www.allsaitsalgarve.org or 282 380 311.

ST VINCENT'S ANGLICAN CHURCH C of E. Sundays: 9.30am Igreja N Sra de Fatima, N125 between Quatro Estradas & Almancil, 11.30am St Luke's, Gorgões, 8.00am & 12noon Igreja N Sra da Luz, Praia da Luz, near Lagos 918 824 584. www.stvincentsalgarve.org
THE SALVATION ARMY in São Bras de Alportel will hold on the 1st Sunday of each month an International Worship Service at the Salvation Army Citadel in São Bras at 5pm, Rua 25 de Abril, nº 19 (next to the Market).

INT. CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP Rua N.5 do Amparo (just off Avda 25 de abril) in "The Bridge" rooms, Cedipraia Shopping Centre. Worship Sundays at 11am. Sunday School for children in English & Portuguese. For more info call 282 461 985 see www.coaa.co.uk/icf.htm

INT. COMMUNITY CHURCH in Lagos invites you to attend its services in English. Sundays 10.30am. Newfrontiers Sunday School 5 Travessa de Santo Amaro, Lagos. Tel: 282-086804 or 282-697546. www.icc-lagos.org.

INT. EVANGELICAL CHURCH OF THE ALGARVE Warmly welcomes residents & visitors of all nationalities and denominations to their

Sunday Services in Vale Judeu at 10.30. Blue sign on the N125 between the Vilamoura entrance & the Atlântico Waterside Park. Creche and Sunday School. For further information: 289 328635.

CHURCH IN LAGOS. Sundays 10.30am at 14, Praça Luís de Camões in the historical building, upper room, in the centre of the old walled city of Lagos. Messianic Assembly. Our mission Math: 28 v 18 to 20. Contact Stefan Saunders (Pastor) 963 165 983, stefanjsaunders@yahoo.co.uk

LAGOA CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP, English Speaking Calvary chapel of the Algarve, Christ Centred study of the Bible and modern worship, Sunday school available for toddlers to teens. Sunday services 11am. Mid-week study 8pm Wednesdays. EN 125 Porches Retail Park, Vale de Lousas, Alcantarilha. Tel: 282 381 347 Pastor Gary O'Connor. www.lagoafellowship.org for more info

TAVIRA CHRISTIAN CENTRE Meetings in English, Sundays at 10.30 am at Av. Mateus Teixeira de Azevedo, 61A (Opposite Skippers Bar) Full programme and further details from Jackie 281 322 857, Steve 917 872 665 and 917 872 559 or Maria 966 380 404. E-mail: jackieandmo@yahoo.co.uk

REGATE DE VIDA, LAGOS, Raising up a new generation according to Eph.4 v 11-12. Church with a Brazilian Flavor. Portuguese speaking. Children Welcome. Meeting on Sundays 8pm - 10pm at Rua, Hospital S. João de Deus. For directions phone Pastors Sidney 963414757 or Anderson 962934005

SALVATION ARMY Service Sundays at 10.45am in Portuguese. Bible studies for children, adolescents and adults in Portuguese starting at 9.30 until 10.30. Rua 25 de Abril, nr. 19, São Brás de Alportel
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EREV SHABAT - For services Tel: 289 417 110

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES - Public Talk in English. The New Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses, 25 Largo Engº Sarrea Prado, Portimão (Next door to the University). Sunday 10.30am. School Thursday 7.30pm Tel: 282 485 495. (Chinese: Saturday 4pm) No collection. ALSO Sítio de Lagoas,

Edifício Space Beautiful, Av 25 April. Ferreiras Albufeira. (Sunday 10am. School Wednesday 7.45pm Tel: 282 339 372.

Oporto

GREATER GRACE INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP has contemporary Christian gatherings on Sunday afternoons at 3rd Baptist Church, Rua Estacao 133, Porto, & Saturday evenings on the 1st floor at Confeitaria Palacio, Porto (across from the "Emergency" entrance of Hospital Santo Antonio); for meeting times, details and updated schedule visit www.NovaAurora.com, call 220 994 785 or send an SMS to 917 112 736.

RIVERSIDE PORTO INTERNATIONAL CHURCH - Oporto. A church that is fun and enriching; Bible based and relevant. Caring, supportive and international. Interdenominational meetings from 6pm Sundays at 1642 Avenida Sacadura Cabral, Aguda, VNG, between Aguda railway station and Miramar golf course. Call Tina or Bill Mason on 227 627 643 or 914 949 611 contact@riversideporto.com or www.riversideporto.com

ST. JAMES'S CHURCH, ANGLICAN CHAPLAINCY OF OPORTO. Largo da Maternidade, Júlio Dinis. Sun. 11am Details from Chaplain (22) 609 1006. www.stjamesoport.com
THE SALVATION ARMY OPORTO Pereira Corps (Av. Vasco da Gama No: 675-2 E Ramalde). Service 10am, Salvation Meeting 5.00pm. Coloras Corps. (Av. dos Bombeiros Voluntários. Tel: 22 929 1077) Sun. 10am. Thurs 4.00pm Ladies Home League Meeting.
JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES - Public Talk in English. Praça Don Afonso V, 168. Sunday 10.30am. Tel: 226 160 976.

Caldas da Rainha

ANGLICAN EVENING WORSHIP IN ENGLISH. At 6.00pm on the Second Sunday of each month. Held in the Evangelical Baptist Church, Rua Dr. José Saudade e Silva 27/29, between Railway Station and central "Pingo Doce". For details phone 262881393. No service on 14 November. Instead please attend St George's Lisbon at 10.50 am
JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES - Public Talk in English. Rua Adelino Amaro da Costa, next to CERCIPI. 2520 Peniche, Obidos. Sunday 11am (1st & 2nd Sunday of the month).

Announcements

SUNDAY LUNCH at the A Colina Hotel, Almancil. For a long relaxing Lunch call 289358792



CANCER MEETINGS Have you been affected by Cancer? Members of the women's cancer support group meet for advice or an informal chat on the first Wednesday of every month in Loulé. If you would like to join us, please contact Vi on 289 882 680 or 917962255.

CASA - IS a local social group established over 20 years ago. A friendly group who have a monthly newsletter and at least one activity per month, usually dinners at local venues. We have and annual trip to Spain or within Portugal, plus other activities. Open to everyone. For more information and a sample newsletter give Mary a call on 282 357 275.



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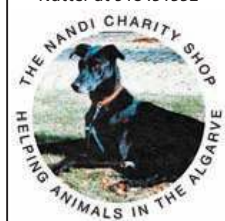


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Charities

AYAMONTE ANIMAL Rescue Fund Raising Craft Fair & Car Boot Sale. Calico Park 0034 959053096.

THE NANDI ANIMAL Charity in Lagos invites vendors and artisans to sell their wares at the Nandi Christmas Fair on November 21, 9 to 330 (set-up begins at 830) at the Mercado do Levante in Lagos. Cost for vendors is €30 if you need a table, €20 if you bring your own. To register, contact Ron Nutter at 918451552



CAR BOOT Sale held every 3rd Sunday of the month at Restaurant 'Quinta dos Areões', adjacent to the Veterinary Clinic in Espiche. Stallholders pay from €3. All proceeds go to Rosco's Charity Association. Call Alfred on 919886955 or contact us on our website www.roscofoundation.org for more information.

WANTED: THE donkey sanctuary needs your unwanted furniture, clothes, books and bric-a-brac for our charity shops in Lagoa and Monte Carvoeiro, all proceeds to aid donkeys in distress. We will collect larger items. Call Nan Richardson 962633811, for details of our work for animal welfare. Please help.

CHARITY SHOP, Montechoro, Albufeira (behind chemist's) needs volunteers to help in the shop. Please ring Lesley: 962 414 584

TAVIRA TREASURE Charity Shop. Tavira Christian Centre, Av. Mateus Teixeira de Azevedo, 61A (Opposite Skippers Bar). Come and browse, Come and bring clothing, Bric-a-Brac, Books. Open Wednesdays, 2.30-4.30 and Saturdays 10.30-12.30. Phone 917872559/ 913617991 for further details. Volunteers needed so we can open more frequently.

CHARITY BOOK Sale & Coffee Morning. 2,000 nearly new paperbacks at 60c. each. All proceeds in aid of The Boy's Home in Faro. Friendly atmosphere in pleasant surroundings. Every Friday from 10am to 12 noon, in the Village Hall, Monte da Palhagreira, Gorjões, Sta. Barbara de Nexe. Info. Tel: 289 990 901.

ALBUFEIRA ABA Charity shop, 41D Avenida do Ténis, open Tuesday to Saturday 10h30 until 2pm. (next door to the Galeano Bar) on the road that leads to the Marina, from the dual carriage-way. We are an independent charity, using the income from the shop for neutering animals. Please help us by donating items for sale.

APAA CHARITY Shops. Cerro Grande, Albufeira, Tuesday to Saturday 10.30am to 2pm; Dunas do Alvor, Tuesday to Saturday 10.30am to 2pm and Sunday 10.30am to 1pm; Rua da Mesquita, Silves, Monday to Saturday 10am to 2pm. Good quality clothes, bric-a-brac, books, jigsaws, etc. Stock and new volunteers always welcome. Help us to help abandoned dogs and cats.

DO YOU have some spare time? Would you like to make new friends and help animals, too? Become a volunteer for the Nandi Animal Charity Shops in Lagos. Most volunteers work one half-day a week. Join us! We are a friendly group and we need you! For more information, call Susan at 918575533.

NEW CHARITY Shop opened in Guia, situated one way street 3 doors up from Restaurant Atlântico opposite carpark. Open 10h30 to 18h30 each day except Saturday (10h30 to 14h30), closed Sundays. Books, excellent quality new and nearly new clothes for men, women, children and babies, toys, puzzles, bric-a-brac, towels, bed linen and many more quality items.

ASSOCIATION BIANCA, a registered Portuguese charity that runs an animal shelter near Lisbon (see more on www.bianca.pt/english) invites you to its online charity shop: http://www.fazendoanimaisfelizes.blogspot.com/You can buy or you can donate. Either way, you are helping to feed 250 dogs and 50 cats."

Crafts

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WRITING CIRCLE in Lagoa Library with Jenny Grainer starting on October 12th at 10.30 then every 1st Tuesday in the month Tel: 963 518 184 jennygrainer@sapo.pt

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Olhanense return empty-handed

Christopher Wright

The 600-kilometre journey to Braga meant an early start for Olhanense fans to see their team take on Sporting Braga at the impressive AXA Stadium built for the 2004 European Championships.

Victories over Celtic and Sevilla resulted in Braga reaching the UEFA Champions League for the first time in their history. Defeats at Arsenal 6-0 and 3-0 to Shakhtar (Ukraine) were followed by a 2-0 home win over Partizan (Serbia) five days before their game with Olhanense.

Braga, who owe their Sporting Club tag to the better known Sporting Clube de Portugal, have been known as *Arsenal do Minho*

and changed their kits from green-and-white hoops to their Arsenal-style red in 1920.

Following a trip to England and Highbury, their coach ordered the club to adopt new colours to establish their own identity. Braga even renamed their youth team *Arsenal do Braga*.

The game started with Olhanense playing Toy up front and Mexer coming in as an extra defender. The home side forced

three corners in the first five minutes and dominated the first-half. After 35 minutes Olhanense keeper Moretto made a superb save from Luis Aguilar. It was constant pressure from 'os arsenalistas' but five minutes before half-time Olhanense stunned the home supporters.

A free-kick out on the left was whipped in by Paulo Sérgio and centre-back Mauricio rose above the Braga defence to head the ball home past Felipe. The two hundred visiting fans went wild. At half-time Olhanense were forced to replace the injured Vinicius with Rui Duarte. Within a few minutes of the restart the scores were level when Massoró scored



from a corner with the Olhanense defence at sixes and sevens. The home side were now totally in command and deservedly took the lead through Lima when he timed his run to perfection. Keeper Moretto should have done better as the ball somehow found the back of the net from an acute angle. Chaos ensued on the hour when Jardel lost his boot whilst making a goal line clearance with the keeper well beaten. Referee Artur Soares Dias awarded Braga an indirect free-kick six metres from goal. Technically the referee was correct but certainly not within the spirit of the law. Elderson rolled the ball to Lima who smashed home his second goal to put the result (3-1) beyond doubt.

On Sunday, Marítimo (Madeira) are the visitors to the José Arcanjo Stadium, Olhão kick-off 4.00pm. The islanders picked up

their first win of the season last weekend 1-0 at home to Naval. Visitors are more than welcome. For more information phone: Chris Wright 916 504 903 (christopher.wright@hotmail.co.uk) or Emily Richardson 939 486 870 (neilandem@sapo.pt)

Both Olhanense and Portimonense have received hometies against Premier League teams. Olhanense meet Nacional (Madeira) while Portimonense have tough opposition in V. Guimarães. Loulentano (Loulé) who lost to Bombarralense in the 3rd round could be reinstated following disciplinary proceedings by the Portuguese FA. If successful they will be at home to non-league outfit CF União from Madeira. Ties to be played on the weekend of the 21st/22nd November.

The 47 'Os Gorilas' supporters - Portuguese, English, Irish and

Belgian - stayed the weekend in the beautiful surrounding of the Bom Jesus do Monte Sanctuary, high above the city of Braga. The Sanctuary is a famous pilgrimage site with a monumental Baroque stairway that climbs 116 metres (381 feet).

In 1629 a pilgrimage church was built and dedicated to the Bom Jesus (Good Jesus) with six chapels which are decorated with terracotta sculptures depicting the Passion of Christ. A further attraction is the funicular built in 1882, to help pilgrims reach the site, and is the oldest in the Iberian Peninsula. It is also the oldest funicular in the world to operate by water counterbalancing, loading water into the carriage at the top of the hill, which weighs it down so it sinks to the bottom, at the same time drawing the lighter, drained carriage up the hill, where the process starts all over again.

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Algarve Motor Park celebrates 2 years

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Since its opening, the motor park has won a number of awards, hosted a range of international motorsport races and welcomed motoring celebrities such as Michael Schumacher, Lewis Hamilton and Troy Bayliss.

Throughout its two years of activity, the Algarve Motor Park, which was built in just seven months and represents an investment of €195 million has hosted 15 international championships, welcomed more than one million spectators and more than 1,500 racing drivers.

Paulo Pinheiro, CEO of Parkalgar, which manages the motor park said: "We have shown the skeptics that we were effectively building one of the best circuits in Europe and the world."

He added that the motor park is not just end with the race track and carting track, but also includes projects under development such as a hotel and apartments, a technology park and solar energy plant.

"We want to be more than just a simple track," he said.

The future of the motor park looks bright with 2011 bringing Italian company N-Tech to the newly built technology park to work on the construction of the Porsche Panamera S.

Motorsport companies such as Ocean Racing Technology, which supports Tiago Monteiro and José Guedes in GP2 are also looking to base their headquarters at the motor park in Portimão.

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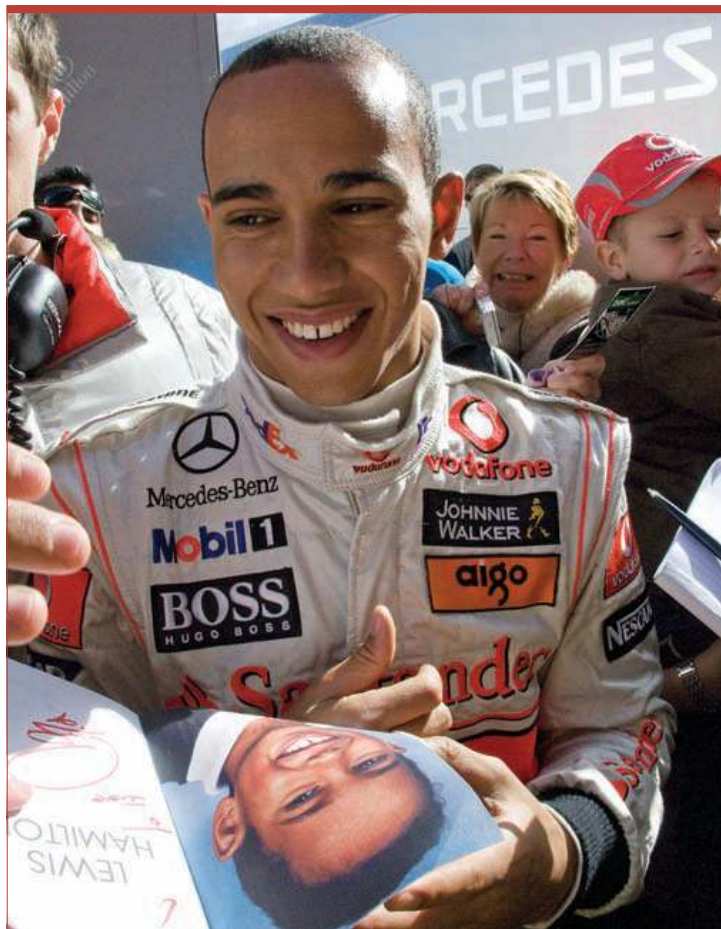
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Formula 1 to return to Portugal?



Recent reports have suggested that the FIA could be bringing the cream of Formula One back to Portugal for testing next year. (Photo: The Portugal News)



Recent reports have suggested that the FIA, happy with the Portimão race track and how it tested two years ago, could be bringing the cream of Formula One back to Portugal for testing next February.

According to a study published recent by the *Diário de Notícias* (DN), the return of Formula 1 testing to the Algarve Motorpark in Portimão would result in a minimum cash injection of ten million euros into the regional economy.

The track is currently on a short-list of FIA-approved circuits on which to conduct testing next year between February 15 and 18.

The ten million euros will be obtained by restaurants, hotels and other forms of accommodation, car hire and flights, with many more millions set to be generated through indirect income.

According to DN news reports, officials at the track initiated talks with the FIA in July to see a return of testing at the track, after successful testing at the track back in 2009 by a number

of Formula 1 teams.

Back in January 2009, six teams, Ferrari, McLaren, Renault, Toyota, Toro Rosso and Williams tested their cars at the circuit.

In the meantime, officials will have to await a decision by the Formula One Teams Association to see if the world's best drivers will make a welcome return to Portugal.

Referees call 'strike'

According to the Association of Portuguese Football Referees (APAF) the "overwhelming majority of Portuguese referees" are unwilling to officiate any matches scheduled for November 6 and 7. The possibility of referees laying down their whistles in protest, gains even greater significance in what is widely considered to be one of the matches of the season, FC Porto against Benfica, is scheduled for that particular weekend.

The position was made official by the APAF president, Luis Guilherme, who argues that the initiative cannot be deemed a strike as referees in Portugal are not professionals.

The reason behind this action boils down to revisions made to tax and social security deductions made by referees.

Mr. Guilherme has suggested that the failure of referees to turn up to matches will not mean that the game will not be played, only that match officials will "select three people from the crowd to officiate matches", be they qualified referees or not, arguing that this situation repeats itself every Sunday in regional divisions.

APAF says despite its protests being formalised in writing, politicians have opted not to respond.

The Referees Council, which has the power to suspend officials, has already publicly stated it will take no action against referees who fail to turn up for matches in a week's time.

SUPERLEAGUE FIXTURES WEEK 9

MATCH	DATE	TIME	TV
Benfica-P.Ferreira	Friday	20h15	SportTV1
Rio Ave-Braga	Saturday	19h15	SportTV1
Académica-FC Porto	Saturday	21h15	TVI
Nacional-Setúbal	Sunday	16h00	
Beira-Mar-Naval	Sunday	16h00	
Olhanense-Marítimo	Sunday	18h15	
Leiria-Sporting	Sunday	20h15	SportTV1
Guimarães-Portimonense	Monday	20h15	SportTV1

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